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SOUTHEAST ASIA REPORT

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CONTENTS

BRUNEI

Briefs

Philippine Workers to Brunei	1
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INDONESIA

Vietnamese Boat Arrives With 605 Refugees (Gilles Bertin; AFP, 26 Oct 83)	2
Profile of Golkar General Chairman Sudharmono (Ismail Kassim, Yang Razali Kassim; THE STRAITS TIMES, 27 Oct 83)	3
Preparations for 1983 Agricultural Census Outlined (SINAR HARAPAN, 27 Sep 83)	5
Foreign Companies Required To Produce Semifinished Products (MERDEKA, 21 Sep 83)	7
Basic Chemical Industry Annual Growth Rate 18.6 Percent (HARIAN UMUM AB, 21 Sep 83)	8
PELITA IV Provides for Construction of Industrial Plants (PELITA, 21 Sep 83)	10
Pay Raise Denied Government Workers (MERDEKA, various dates)	12
Raises, New Appointments, Corruption Discussed DPR Members Call for Pay Raise	
ABRI Leadership Conference for 1983 Opens in Jakarta (HARIAN UMUM AB, 27 Sep 83)	15
Basic Policies Outlined Defense Minister's Speech	

Oil Refinery Agreement With Singapore To Be Renewed (MERDEKA, 21 Sep 83)	17
Briefs	
Indonesia, South Korea Cooperate	19
MALAYSIA	
Joint ASEAN Measures Against Chinese Oil Competition Urged (THE NATION REVIEW, 23 Oct 83)	20
KIN KWOK's Chairman Views Press Freedom, Chinese Unity (KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 21 Aug 83)	21
Proposed Establishment of Chinese Savings Fund Wins Support (KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 30 Aug 83)	23
Lack of Protection for Chinese Rights Cited (KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 21 Aug 83)	25
Chinese Urged To Focus on Teaching of Chinese in Public High Schools (SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 23 Aug 83)	27
Establishment of Chinese Savings Fund Proposed (SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 29 Aug 83)	28
Chinese Youth Urged To Participate in National Activity (SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 22 Aug 83)	30
Aquino Assassination Damages Marcos' Image (Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 23 Aug 83)	33
Datuk Neo: MCA Must Continue To Provide Leadership (SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 22 Aug 83)	35
Political Maturity of Malay Leaders Lauded (KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, 23 Aug 83)	37
Editorial Comments on Aquino's Assassination (Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 28 Aug 83)	39
Need for Eradicating Tin Smuggling Discussed (Editorial; SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA, 25 Aug 83)	41
PHILIPPINES	
Columnist on U.S. Interest in Vice Presidency Idea (Jesus Bigornia; BULLETIN TODAY, 1 Nov 83)	43
Observers Fear 'State of Economic Emergency' (Rigoberto D. Tiglao; BUSINESS DAY, 24 Oct 83)	45

Government Budget Deficit Reduced by One-Third (BULLETIN TODAY, 30 Oct 83)	48
Central Bank Chief's Program for Balance of Payments (BULLETIN TODAY, 30 Oct 83)	49
Industry Agrees to Government Controls (Eduardo Lacson; AFP, 21 Oct 83)	51
Businessmen Cite Political Nature of Problems (BUSINESS DAY, 24 Oct 83)	53
Antisubversive Efforts in South Noted (BULLETIN TODAY, 27 Oct 83)	57
Commander Warns of MNLF-NPA 'Coordination' Sulu Rehabilitation Program	
Columnist Attacks Marcos' Bid Against Vice Presidency (Jesus Bigornia; BULLETIN TODAY, 27 Oct 83)	59
Tolentino To Make Public Appeal on Vice Presidency Restoration (E. T. Suarez; BULLETIN TODAY, 30 Oct 83)	60
Romulo Ailing, May Need 'Major Operation' (BULLETIN TODAY, 27 Oct 83)	61
Zobel Retirement Prompts Large Ayala Stock Transfer (BULLETIN TODAY, 26 Oct 83)	62
Marcos Sets Policy of Public Lands (BULLETIN TODAY, 25 Oct 83)	63
Education Ministry Considers Muslim Schools (BULLETIN TODAY, 25 Oct 83)	64
Daily Views Aquino Probe Delays (Editorial; BULLETIN TODAY, 30 Oct 83)	65
Briefs	
Manila Coverage of Grenada	66
Australian Grant for Coal Project	66
Australia Stops Arms Aid	66
Rebel Attacks Kill Twenty	66

THAILAND

Columnists, Editorial View KAL Incident (Various sources, various dates)	67
Columnist Chides U.S.	
Editorial Raises Espionage Issue	
Implications Discussed, by Trairat	
Cartoon Juxtaposes KAL, Marcos	
Propaganda Aspect of Incident, by Trairat	

VIETNAM

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

Village Cadres Assassination by Chinese Agents (Thai Quang; NHAN DAN, 19 Sep 83)	74
---	----

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

Vietnamese Youth Delegation Attends Meeting in Sofia (Various sources, 1 Nov 83)	76
---	----

Report on Meeting
Youths Meet With Officials

Pham Van Dong Greets UN's Week for Namibia (VNA, 26 Oct 83)	77
--	----

Briefs

Outgoing PDRY Ambassador	78
Soviet Assistance to Agriculture	78
SRV-CSSR Amity Group Anniversary	78
Soviet Educational Delegation Visits	78
Gifts From Soviet Trade Unions	79
USSR's AUCCTU Group Attends Meeting	79

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

Nghe Tinh Party Conference Reviews Province's Situation (NHAN DAN, 19 Sep 83)	80
--	----

AGRICULTURE

Cuu Long Province Reports Increases in Agriculture (Trung Kien; NHAN DAN, 19 Sep 83)	82
---	----

Hanoi Radio Reviews Agricultural Activities (Hanoi Domestic Service, various dates)	84
--	----

20 October Report
31 October Report

Dac Lac Province Plants Winter Crops (NHAN DAN, 19 Sep 83)	87
---	----

Dien Bank--Model of Agroindustrial Economy (VNA, 27 Oct 83)	88
--	----

Hai Hung Reports Difficulties in Relocating Fishermen (Tran Vinh; NHAN DAN, 19 Sep 83)	91
---	----

Reportage on Impact, Damage of Tropical Storms (Hanoi International Service, various dates)	92
Feature Notes Impact Tropical Storms 'Lex,' 'Kim'	
Briefs	
Nghe Tinh Area Grain Inspection	94
HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE	
Ministry Officials Inspect Flood-Damaged Areas (Hanoi Domestic Service, 24 Oct 83)	95
Briefs	
Typhoon-Stricken Thuan Hai Aided	96
POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE	
Life Improves in Minority Village in Highlands (VNA, 26 Oct 83)	97

BRUNEI

BRIEFS

PHILIPPINE WORKERS TO BRUNEI--Brunei, a possible member of the ASEAN, is our best labor market. Four Filipino contractors are now in Brunei, one of whom is in the process of building a \$250-million palace for the sultan. Next month, the Philippines and Brunei will sign a labor agreement which will formally welcome Filipino workers to that oil-rich and stable state. [By Theodoro F. Valencia] [Excerpt] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 31 Oct 83 p 6]

CSO: 4200/150

VIETNAMESE BOAT ARRIVES WITH 605 REFUGEES

BK261433 Hong Kong AFP in English 1321 GMT 26 Oct 83

[By Gilles Bertin]

[Text] Jakarta, 26 Oct (AFP)--A 500-ton Vietnamese coaster has arrived in Indonesia with 605 refugees aboard, United Nations officials here said today. The boat, which reached Indonesian shores on October 17, was the largest to leave Vietnam loaded with refugees for several years, observers said. However, a senior official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (NHCR) here, Philippe Labreuveux, said: "It is an isolated case and we should not expect other massive departures."

The number of arrivals of boat people has dropped by around 30 percent for the region and 20 percent in Indonesia this year.

The coaster, numbered TG 117, was originally set to leave Vietnam in 1979, reliable sources said.

Some 400 of the 605 refugees who arrived last week were due to leave four years ago, they added. Then, Vietnamese authorities allowed boats of average size to leave after extracting a payment, the sources said. But since 1980, only small boats have been able to leave Vietnam, with or without the permission of local authorities. Some 50 percent of these boats disappeared in the China Sea, victims of storms or pirates, they said.

Each refugee on TG 117 had to pay several thousand dollars to various go-between's and the authorities before they could leave. Some 40 percent were of Chinese origin and the majority were from well-off families. Some carried possessions--one even had two elephant tusks, the sources said. "It is impossible that this boat left without permission from local authorities," a diplomat said.

The 605 refugees' 1,500-km (950 mile) journey on calm seas took seven days. They arrived in good health at Galang Island, 800 km (500 miles) north of here, where the UNHCR runs a camp. The passengers were allowed to land and were put in the camp. They will be quickly sent to other countries for almost all these refugees have relatives living outside Vietnam. Currently around 8,500 [word indistinct] refugees and Vietnamese boat people are in Galang, a small island put at the disposal of the UNHCR by Indonesian authorities.

CSO: 4200/145

PROFILE OF GOLKAR GENERAL CHAIRMAN SUDHARMONO

BK281619 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Oct 83 p 16

[By Ismail Kassim and Yang Razali Kassim]

[Text] Jakarta--Lt Gen Sudharmono, who was elected the general chairman of Golkar on Tuesday, has never been in the limelight until the last few weeks.

Unassuming and soft-spoken, Gen Sudharmono, the minister in charge of the State Secretariat, has always shunned publicity.

It is no secret that President Suharto had indicated his preference for Gen Sudharmono, his political aide of 10 years, for the post.

Observers described Mr Suharto's move as astute and said it was meant to keep in rein the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, General Benni Murdani.

Another reason put forward is that Mr Suharto, who is also Golkar's adviser in chief, would like to see Gen Sudharmono consolidate the military-backed Golkar (functional groups) and launch it into a new era of dynamism.

Despite its electoral victories, the Golkar machinery has never really functioned well, particularly in between general elections.

Many of its departments are virtually inactive. Even its central executive board has not been running smoothly. Critics also said that several resolutions passed by the last congress in 1978 have yet to be implemented.

General Sudharmono, an East Javanese Muslim with three grown-up children educated in the West, has built himself a reputation as an efficient, hard-working and energetic technocrat-general.

According to the influential Indonesian weekly, TEMPO, General Sudharmono works long hours, brings home assignments or, when necessary, even camps in the office with his staff to finish a task.

On the softer side, the 56-year-old minister, who always wears a smile, is said to be humane and reasonable toward his staff. He has never been known to rebuke them publicly.

He is one minister who looks into the welfare of his staff, especially their housing needs.

General Sudharmono began his army career in 1945. After graduating from Jakarta's military law school, he served briefly as a platoon commander in the East Javanese Ronggolawe [sic] Division.

He later served as a staff officer in several military academies.

General Sudharmono first became involved in politics in 1964 when he helped form Golkar's predecessor, Sekber-Golkar, to counter the threat from the Indonesian Communist Party (PKI).

When Gen Suharto became president soon after the abortive PKI coup in 1965, General Sudharmono was brought closer to the centre of power as secretary of the Cabinet.

Subsequently, General Sudharmono was also made a minister of state (State Secretariat). His responsibilities included running a number of economic and technical-related projects.

The Sudharmono-Suharto relationship grew so close over the years that the minister became one of the few people who had the privilege of "drinking coffee with the president and of riding in "Indonesia 1," the presidential car.

The move by Mr Suharto to shift General Sudharmono from the Golkar advisory council to the top of its executive leadership has received the support of many within and outside the movement.

With the president's most trusted aide as head of the executive board, Golkar can be expected to be more independent from its military and bureaucratic backers.

General Sudharmono is however not known to have his own power-base and some people within and outside Golkar doubt that he can do an effective job of running it. But General Sudharmono, a strategist and man of consensus, is expected to overcome this apparent limitation.

Many in Golkar are confident that, with Mr Suharto's strong backing, General Sudharmono will be able to develop Golkar into a more effective political movement.

CSO: 4200/145

PREPARATIONS FOR 1983 AGRICULTURAL CENSUS OUTLINED

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 11

[Article: "BPS Chief Drs Azwar Hasjid Says 1983 Agricultural Census Preparations Have Been Completed as Planned"]

[Text] Preparations for taking the 1983 agricultural census in both central and outlying regions have been completed as planned. The Central Statistics Bureau (BPS) is now completing preparations for processing the census records, and it is expected that provisional results of the census will be submitted to the government before 25 December.

On Monday morning [26 September] Drs Azwar Rasjid, BPS director, presented this information during an opinion sharing session with members of Parliament's Commission X held at the Central Statistics Bureau. "More detailed computer processing will begin on 2 January and will be completed in stages by the end of 1984," he added.

In addition to listening to responses to written questions submitted earlier, the commission members were able to tour the facility and observe equipment available in the BPS office on Dr Sutomo Street in Central Jakarta. A delegation of 23 of the 31 members of Commission X, headed by Drs H. M. Zamron, who acted on behalf of the commission's chairman, Drs Marsoesi, attended the meeting.

The questions focused mainly on the 1983 agricultural census which will be conducted beginning 1 October. Drs Rasjid said the census preparation phase was completed by 25 September and included changing village names and drawing up a sample. Some 57,000 census workers, including census takers, supervisors, subdistrict census coordinators as well as the staffs of regency and municipal statistics offices, had completed training. They were trained by 440 instructors at the national level who were trained between 20 July and 11 August. Since 1 August these instructors have been dispatched to regional training centers.

BPS Budget

During this meeting questions were also submitted on the BPS 1984-85 draft budget which totals 18.8 billion rupiahs, of which 8.4 billion rupiahs are

estimated to come from funds earmarked for the BPS in the state secretary's budget, and 10.4 billion rupiahs from the Finance Department. "The proposed budget is 20.1 percent lower than last year's budget."

Drs Rasjid pointed out that only the most pressing activities have been included in the fiscal 1985 budget. Other than the 1983 agricultural census, they include the preparation of the 1985 intercensus population survey and the preparation of the 1986 economic census.

Responding to a question about BPS' role in collecting data on the malnourished sector of the population, he said special facilities are needed for this activity including workers who have studied nutrition, with the BPS only assisting by planning the methodology to be used to collect such data.

BPS conducted a consumption and household expenditure survey during the national economic survey. Since an interview method was used, the results of this survey were used only to obtain an estimate of the number of malnourished persons in the population. "BPS has been unable to calculate a precise figure for malnourished persons because no basic national criteria have been agreed upon," Drs Rasjid said.

Birth Date

The BPS chief said in 1980 the "crude birth rate" was about 5.1 million babies born annually, or 14,000 born each day and 585 born each hour. This is a drop of 11.3 percent in the crude birth rate compared with that of 1970 when the crude birth rate was recorded at 39.34 births per 1,000 population.

6804

CSO: 4213/28

FOREIGN COMPANIES REQUIRED TO PRODUCE SEMIFINISHED PRODUCTS

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Text] Jakarta, Tuesday [20 September]--To reduce dependence on semi-finished pharmaceutical materials from abroad, the government has required pharmaceutical factories constructed with foreign capital to manufacture semi-finished pharmaceutical products. This was stated by Minister of Health Suwardjono Suryaningrat to reporters at the Bina Graha offices on Tuesday [20 September] after he had been received by President Soeharto.

The minister said: "At present we have begun with 15 foreign pharmaceutical factories which are producing the semi-finished goods," adding that this requirement would be applied to other foreign pharmaceutical factories.

Answering questions from reporters, the minister of health confirmed that medicine costs are presently high because the semi-finished medicines produced in Indonesia are still dependent on foreign imports.

He said: "Although it is true that 90 percent of the medicine is made in Indonesia, 90 percent of the raw materials are imported from abroad. Now this has begun to be reduced."

Another factor which has influenced the cost of medicine is that the distribution chain to the consumer is a long one, and the costs go up by as much as 250 percent. To deal with this problem, a regulation has been issued by the Directorate General for the Supervision of Medicines and Foods which sets out the highest price that may be charged. This is to avoid arbitrary price-setting.

In addition, the supervisory system has been expanded with the establishment of a special supervisory apparatus which takes "special samples" of dangerous drugs, for example.

The minister reported to the president on the visit of Doctor Ukoko, the regional director of WHO [World Health Organization] and winner of the Nobel prize for 1962-63, who will arrive in Jakarta on 27 September. He also reported on National Health Day, which will be celebrated on 12 November. Activity has already begun to be focused on this event in West Java, using the slogan: "Live a Healthy Life; Keep Your Family happy and Safe."

5170

CSO: 4213/24

BASIC CHEMICAL INDUSTRY ANNUAL GROWTH RATE 18.6 PERCENT

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 7

[Excerpt] Jakarta, HARIAN UMUM AB--Doctor Sidharta, the director general of the basic chemical industry, said that the basic chemical industry during the Third 5-Year Plan had recorded encouraging growth of about 18.6 percent per year. This means that growth was above the figure set out for the basic industry group, which was 14 percent per year.

In testimony yesterday [20 September] before Committee VI of Parliament, which was presided over by Anwar Nuris, the director general said that the growth was not only in terms of quantity but also in terms of specific commodities. This was due to the completion of the construction of new factories or the expansion of already existing factories or due to diversification of production.

As an example he pointed to the development of production in 1982-83, compared to 1981-82, of several important basic chemical products, such as fertilizer, pesticides, paper, tires for motor vehicles, synthetic fiber, and cement.

He said that actual production of urea fertilizer in 1982-83 would only reach 1,921,300 tons, a 4 percent decline, compared to 1981-82. Sidharta said this was due to the rather long drought during 1982-83.

For the production of fertilizer from caustic soda [ZA], actual output during 1982-83 would amount to 209,000 tons, an increase of 7.4 percent over the previous year. Production of TSP [Triple Super Phosphate] in 1982-83 would amount to about 589,300 tons, an increase of 5.4 percent over 1981-82.

Production of pesticides in 1982-83 amounted to 47,900 tons, an increase of 42.9 percent over 1981-82, when production totaled 33,600 tons.

Production of paper during 1982-83 amounted to 296,900 tons, an increase of 20.4 percent compared to 1981-82. According to the director general, this increase was due to a sharp spurt in demand for paper for art work to support the education sector, whose needs are continuing to increase each year.

Regarding tires for motor vehicles, he said that production during 1982-83 amounted to 3,886,300 tires for buses, trucks, and passenger vehicles. A total of 2,567,100 tires were produced for motorcycles and motor scooters. This involved an increase of 1.6 percent in production of tires for buses, trucks, and passenger vehicles and a decline of 8.36 percent in the production of tires for motorcycles and motor scooters.

There was also an increase in the production of synthetic fiber. Production in this sector in 1982-83 included polyester staple fiber, polyester filament yarn, and nylon filament yarn. Production amounted to 113,500 tons of fibers of all kinds, which means there was an increase of 1.4 percent, compared with production in 1981-82. Production of cement also reflected an increase of 6.4 percent, with production in 1982-83 amounting to 7,420,000 tons.

In terms of the value of sales of basic chemical commodities, there was also a rather sharp increase. According to the director general, this increase averaged about 34.2 percent per year.

Of the four sub-sectors in the basic chemical industry sector, that is, agro-chemical, cellulose and rubber, organic chemicals, and inorganic chemicals, sales volume in 1982-83 reflected an increase of 223.6 percent, compared with sales volume in 1978-79. In 1978-79 total sales volume amounted to 420,524,090,000 rupiahs, while in 1982-83 sales were valued at 1,360,723,212,900 rupiahs.

5170

CSO: 4213/24

PELITA IV PROVIDES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF INDUSTRIAL PLANTS

Jakarta PELITA in Indonesian 21 Sep 83 p 7

[Article: "Indonesia Has Opportunity to Build Three More Fertilizer Factories]

[Text] Jakarta (PELITA)--In the coming Fourth 5-Year Plan (1983-89) Indonesia has the opportunity to build three more fertilizer factories with a productive capacity of more than 1 million tons per year.

This was stated by Doctor Sidharta, director general of the basic chemical industry in the Ministry of Industry, in testimony before Committee VI of Parliament at the DPR/MPR [Parliament/People's Consultative Assembly] building in the Senayan district of Jakarta on Tuesday [20 September].

This opportunity has been made possible due to the increasing need for fertilizer, particularly in connection with the self-sufficiency in food program.

The three factories consist of two urea fertilizer plants with a productive capacity of 570,000 tons per year and one factory capable of producing 500,000 tons per year of TSP [Triple Super Phosphate].

He said that Indonesian requirements for chemical fertilizer at the end of the Fourth 5-Year Plan have been estimated at about 6,942,000 tons, consisting of 5,123,000 tons of urea fertilizer and 1,819,000 tons of TSP. Meanwhile, installed production, if the three new factories are constructed, is estimated at 7,110,000 tons per year, consisting of 5,610,000 tons of urea fertilizer and 1.5 million tons of TSP. As a result, there will be a surplus in urea fertilizer production of more than 500,000 tons, while there will be a shortage of more than 300,000 tons of TSP.

The surplus of urea fertilizer can be exported, while efforts will be made to reduce the imports of TSP.

The government is planning to take advantage of this opportunity in a number of ways. That is, by expanding an existing factory or building another factory in

South Sulawesi for the production of urea fertilizer and by expanding the PT Petrokimia Gresik factory for the production of TSP.

Another Opportunity

In addition to the fertilizer factories there will be opportunities in the course of the Fourth 5-Year Plan to construct plants for the production of pesticides, paper, rayon, tires, and a number of organic industrial chemicals, according to the director general of the basic chemical industry.

For the paper industry under the Fourth 5-Year Plan it is planned to produce newsprint, special security paper, paper for cement sacks, cigarette paper, wood pulp, rayon, and so forth.

The installed capacity of the industry manufacturing tires for four-wheeled motor vehicles by the end of the Fourth 5-Year Plan is expected to be 10,290,000 tires per year, while annual domestic requirements are 6,910,000 tires.

By the end of the Fourth 5-Year Plan the installed capacity for production of tires for two-wheeled motor vehicles is estimated at 5,709,000 tires per year, while domestic requirements are 4,961,000 tires. Meanwhile, by the end of the Fourth 5-Year Plan the production of tires for strategic needs, such as for airplanes, heavy military vehicles, tractors, and so forth, will amount to 15,000 per year, all turned out by the private sector.

Employs 39,000 Workers

At the committee hearing presided over by H. M. Anwar Nuris, the deputy chairman of Committee VI, the director general of the basic chemical industry gave the members of the committee an opportunity to ask questions related to his area of work.

Answering a question asked by Dr Muzni Tambusai about the number of workers employed on basic chemical projects during the Fourth 5-Year Plan, the director general said that because basic chemical projects in general are capital intensive, the number of workers that could be employed in this sector during the Fourth 5-Year Plan was relatively small--only about 39-40,000 workers.

Answering a question from another committee member about the size of the price differential on goods produced in Indonesia, compared to imported goods, he stated that there might be a difference involving imported goods which are "dumped" in Indonesia to take over the market and obtain foreign exchange.

To get an idea of the real price, it would be necessary to make a comparison with goods of the same kind in the country of origin of the imported items, Doctor Sidharta said.

5176

CSO: 4213/24

PAY RAISE DENIED GOVERNMENT WORKERS

Raises, New Appointments, Corruption Discussed

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Text] Dr Saleh Afif, minister for MENPAN [Department of Administrative Reform], clarified that the government will not give government workers a pay raise in the near future. He objected to the story carried in newspapers recently about the denial of the pay raise to civil servants.

F22

The MENPAN clarification was presented in response to a question from a member of Parliament's Commission II regarding a possible plan to increase government workers' salaries during a working meeting held by Commission II with the MENPAN in Jakarta today.

MENPAN said civil servants will not waste away because of low or insufficient salaries, for they receive a number of allowances in addition to their basic salaries.

Within the past 5 years, the minister said, the government's budget allocation for civil servant salaries mounted to 1 trillion rupiahs and amounts to more than 3 trillion rupiahs at present. Still, it is considered to be insufficient.

Accompanied by A. E. Manihuruk, chief of the National Civil Servants Administration Agency (BAKN), and Prof Bintoro, chairman of the National Institute for Administration (LAN), the MENPAN added that no new civil servant appointments have yet been made for fiscal 1985.

No decision has yet been taken on such appointments, he said, and the department has made no decision as to which agency will be given priority for hiring new personnel. Discussions are still being held as to whether any hiring is required.

Corruption Not Yet Institutionalized

Responding to a question from a commission member on corruption among government employees, MENPAN said it cannot be said that corruption is

institutionalized in Indonesia. Only some 800 of the 2.7 million government workers are alleged to be corrupt. This amounts to about 3.1 employees per million.

Without providing further details, Saleh Afif said there is much corruption now in the government but the number of persons involved is low. The level of corruption is low compared to the number of government employees.

He said the government will weigh the possibility of having colleges do research on why civil servants are corrupt.

Saleh Afif added that the coordinating minister for the economy, finance and industry must still be consulted on this matter.

Wages Are Sufficient

In a working meeting with the parliamentary budget commission held on Saturday [24 September], A. E. Mahiburuk, BAKN chief, said government research indicates that its employees' salaries are sufficient to maintain a modest standard of living.

A modest standard of living is defined as having enough money to pay for food, clothing and housing plus such nonphysical requirements as children's school fees, recreation, and so on.

Government research shows, the BAKN chief said, that a civil servant's family, consisting of a father, mother and three children, requires a daily intake of 11,000 calories and 285 grams of both animal and vegetable protein. These requirements can be met on present government salaries.

DPR Members Call for Pay Raise

Jakarta MERDEKA in Indonesian 28 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Text] Two members of Parliament, Yusuf Syakir of the FPP [Central Pancasila Front] faction and Marsusi of the PDI [Indonesian Democratic Party] faction, believe government employees and ABRI personnel salaries should be raised immediately to maintain their morale for carrying out their duties.

They noted this on separate occasions to MERDEKA today, in response to MENPAN's statement at a working meeting yesterday with Parliament's Commission II that civil servant salaries would not be raised in the near future.

Yusuf Syakir said because of spectacular government policies that raised the BBM (fuel oil) price, not only once but twice, and devalued the rupiah, civil servants and ABRI personnel are suffering now because their salaries have not been raised in the past 3 years.

Grade III civil servants, he said, whose salaries once were sufficient to meet the minimum physical requirements are now in a sticky situation because their

salaries are insufficient to meet the minimum requirements for 1 month. They are no longer able to pay their children's school fees.

Marsusi believes civil servants greatly need a pay raise to be able to do an honest day's work.

By this he meant that government workers who have not had a pay raise use state funds to meet their daily needs or to get rich.

More Important System

According to Yusuf Sykir, it is natural that MENPAN's Saleh Afif would say that 800 instead of 2.7 million government employees were involved in corruption, because if he admitted the latter [that corruption was becoming widespread or institutionalized], then it would be the same as legalizing corruption.

Sykir said to control the embezzlement of state funds, supervision is more important than the mental state of the individual because men are basically mentally healthy. Therefore a system better than the present one must be created.

He said there are signs now that corruption is being covered up in the operational sphere of certain highly-placed officials, although it is yet uncertain whether these officials are involved in corruption.

Sykir believes the institution of supervision should not be identified with a lack of confidence in the agency or individuals who are being supervised. Once this is understood, then individuals or agencies will be willing to accept such supervision.

Should Not Be Covered Up

Responding to a MERDEKA question, Marsusi further reminded his listeners that government employees do not hide the possibility that corruption exists in their agencies. Further, no opportunity should be given to employees to take such disgraceful steps. There must be more judicial operations such as those carried out by the Attorney General's office in accord with the government's desire to create a clean and prestigious administration, he said.

The MENPAN statement that only 800 of the 2.7 million civil servants are corrupt is questionable, Marsusi said.

He remarked, "I am convinced that more than 800 civil servants are involved in embezzling state funds and that many involved in corruption have not yet been revealed."

6804

CSO: 4213/28

ABRI LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR 1983 OPENS IN JAKARTA

Basic Policies Outlined

Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 p 1

[Excerpt] On Monday morning [26 September], Gen TNI [Indonesian National Army] L. B. Moerdani, ABRI [Indonesian Armed Forces] commander, opened the 1983 ABRI leadership conference held at the Indonesia Mini Park in Langen Budaya, Jakarta.

In his welcoming address at the meeting which was attended by 141 persons, Gen Moerdani said the 1983 ABRI RAPIM [Leadership Conference] was being held to explain leadership policies that were developed from three earlier policies.

The first policy involves things which must be achieved in fiscal 1984, the last year of the RENSTRA HANKAM II [second defense and security strategic plan]. The second policy covers basic elements contained in the planning guide for the work program and budget for fiscal 1985, which is the first year of the third RENSTRA HANKAM. It will be used to arrive at the targets set in the second RENSTRA HANKAM and to determine the basic aims of the third RENSTRA HANKAM. The third policy concerns other important matters connected with the implementation of ABRI's basic missions.

Gen Moerdani said after the 1983 ABRI RAPIM, a crystallized policy will be presented in an ABRI commander's instruction that will include pressing matters which must be given immediate attention. This instruction will serve as a guide until the third RENSTRA HANKAM is issued.

Gen Moerdani explained that the third RENSTRA HANKAM will serve to bridge the gap between the old and young generations. The current ABRI RAPIM will also consider plans for establishing truly strong bases for consistent management that can serve as a guide for generation after generation of ABRI leaders.

The ABRI commander expected and urged the participants in the conference to sincerely make a success of the RAPIM considering its important goals.

The conference, which will be held until 29 September, has as its theme, "With its fighting spirit and superior professionalism, ABRI will make REPELITA IV [fourth 5-year economic development program] succeed."

Defense Minister's Speech

Jakarta HARIUM UMUM AB in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 pp 1-2

[Text] Gen TNI Poniman, minister of defense and security, said the organizational changes contained in Law No 20 of 1982 evolved from new ideas demanded by the development of HANKAM [Defense and Security] and ABRI.

Speaking during the ABRI conference session held on Monday [26 September] in Jakarta, the minister added that he hoped these changes would not be viewed as a correction of the organizational structure that had been formed earlier.

Gen Poniman said various organizational structures had been established since the TNI and ABRI were formed. Each historical period had its own characteristics and own problems and, therefore, the organizational structure of these organizations was adapted to the environmental situation and the demands of that period. The organizational structure now being developed is expected to be able to support the development of HANKAM and ABRI as they face the various problems that the future has in store.

He explained that the HANKAM Department's organization as contained in Presidential Decree No 46 of 1983 was not yet a reality because further simplification of each element of the organization is needed. The new organizational plan will be ratified later in a HANKAM ministerial decision. The general expected the simplification process to be completed by early October because a work committee, consisting of personnel of HANKAM, ABRI Headquarters, ABRI branches and POLRI [Indonesian National Police] elements, has been working on the problem for some time.

Touching on the People's Resistance Doctrine, Gen Poniman said in addition to modernizing ABRI, defense and security must be improved within the context of maintaining the sovereignty and independence of the Republic of Indonesia, based on Pancasila and the 1945 Constitution.

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CSO: 4213/28

OIL REFINERY AGREEMENT WITH SINGAPORE TO BE RENEWED

Jakarta MERDLKA in Indonesian 21 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Text] Singapore, Tuesday (20 September)--Indonesia will renew its oil processing and refining agreement with Singapore for the fourth quarter of this year, although the new expansion of the Cilacap refinery is now complete, an industry source states.

It is hoped that the amount of oil to be refined will reach 75,000 barrels per day, almost the same volume previously refined in Singapore, the source adds.

The source stated that PERTAMINA [State Oil and Gas Company] has approached the four largest oil refineries in Singapore, that is, Shell Eastern Petroleum Pvt [Private] Ltd, Esso Singapore Pvt Ltd, Mobil Singapore Pvt Ltd, and Singapore Petroleum Co, regarding the renewal of the agreement for the fourth quarter of this year.

The renewal of the refining agreement is necessary because the new Indonesian oil refineries in Cilacap and Balikpapan will not go through their "operational trials" until the fourth quarter of the year, the source said.

With regard to the Cilacap refinery it has also been reported that it has encountered difficulties. However, Indonesian Minister of Mining and Energy Subroto denied this last week.

The expanded area of the Cilacap oil refinery was officially dedicated on 4 August. It is expected that the new Balikpapan refinery will go into operation on 1 November.

The two facilities are each intended to increase refining capacity by 200,000 barrels per day. According to the American Embassy in Jakarta, the increased capacity is about 100,000 barrels per day.

The source mentioned above states that after experiencing a delay of several weeks the new Cilacap refinery has achieved a throughput of 120,000 barrels per day, almost 1 1/2 months after it was officially opened. It is estimated that full production will not be achieved until the end of this month.

PERTAMINA considers that the expanded refineries will reflect further progress over the next few months, while Indonesian requirements are met through temporary refining agreements and purchases on the Singapore spot market, as has been done during the third quarter of the year.

The business source stated that PERTAMINA has made sufficiently large purchases in the Singapore spot market this month. September requirements are estimated at 60-70,000 tons of kerosene and 100-150,000 tons of gasoline.

An official in Jakarta has said that during the last 4 days there have been four interruptions to production at the new Cilacap refinery.

The source, who did not want to be identified, said: "They had to close down the refinery completely, inspect the entire refinery system, and begin again from a cold state."

5170

CSG: 4213/24

BRIEFS

INDONESIA, SOUTH KOREA COOPERATE--On Monday [26 September] Indonesia and South Korea held discussions in Jakarta on energy cooperation. These discussions will continue for 2 days. Subroto, minister of mining and energy, heads the Indonesian delegation while the South Korean delegation is headed by Suh Sang-chul, minister of energy and resources, for the fourth meeting of the Indonesian-South Korean Cooperation Committee on Energy. Minister Suh Sang-chul arrived in Jakarta on Sunday [25 September] prior to the conference and was received by Minister Subroto at the Department of Mining and Energy on Monday morning. The Indonesian-South Korean Energy Cooperation Committee discussed possible cooperation in the oil and natural gas, electricity and general mining fields. At the Bina Graha [executive building], Minister Subroto said Indonesia would prefer to obtain South Korea's energy technology. South Korea is interested in investing capital in the general mining field, such as in coal mining. South Korea is participating in a coal field development program in Kalimantan where production will begin within 3 years. Other nations such as Australia and Britain are also exploring for coal in East Kalimantan. [Text] [Jakarta HARIAN UMUM AB in Indonesian 27 Sep 83 pp 1, 7] 6804

CS0: 4213/28

JOINT ASEAN MEASURES AGAINST CHINESE OIL COMPETITION URGED

Bangkok THE NATION REVIEW in English 23 Oct 83 p 2

[Text]

SINGAPORE - Oil-producing members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) should take joint steps to protect their markets against future competition from China, a senior Malaysian oil official said yesterday.

Abdullah Mohammed Salleh, chairman of Malaysia's state oil company Petronas, said China was set to become a large oil exporter.

"It is only realistic to anticipate the effects that this giant will have on the oil markets of ASEAN producers," he said.

"We have to plan ahead as a group to preserve and strengthen existing markets for our oil," he told the annual meeting of the ASEAN Council on Petroleum (ASCOPE) in Singapore.

China already is Asia's leading oil producer, pumping out around two million barrels a day. But it exports very little because of its own large needs.

It has, however, recently begun an extensive offshore oil search with foreign firms, to tap potential reserves that it estimates at 40-100 billion barrels. Most of this oil will be exported to earn foreign revenues, industry analysts say.

All ASEAN members except Singapore produce oil. But only Indonesia - Asia's sole OPEC member - and Malaysia are large producers, being Asia's leading exporters. The Philippines and Thailand produce very little.

Oil industry sources said China's offshore oil drive already is having some effect on exploration elsewhere in Asia.

Abdullah conceded that foreign oil contractors working in Malaysia had cut back their exploration activity and tended to concentrate on developing wells in fields where oil had been found, rather than on drilling for new finds.

Petronas' exploration arm, Petronas Carigali, has stepped in to fill the gap left by the general cutback and maintain the level of exploration, he added.

Industry sources said the downturn in the oil market had squeezed the budgets and cash flows of exploration companies, and a good share of the funds now available for exploration appeared to be earmarked for the China offshore programme.

"The oil companies are keen on China. The risks are large but the rewards could be too," one industry source said.

The sources said Indonesia continued to attract foreign interest because it offered attractive production-sharing terms.

But Malaysia's terms were among the world's toughest and failed to draw new interest in the current world oil climate, they said.

Chaovana Sylvanta, the chairman of Thailand's state oil and gas company, the Petroleum Authority of Thailand, said ASEAN governments had recently agreed formally to widen the scope of an existing emergency petroleum-sharing scheme.

Under the original scheme, introduced several years ago, the group would help any member that suffered sustained shortages or disruptions in supplies caused by a global oil crisis.

"But this scheme should equally apply under reversed market conditions," Joedo Sumbono, president director of Indonesia's state oil company Pertamina said.

Sumbono, like Chaovana, did not elaborate on the new terms. But ASCOPE sources said the sharing scheme would now also cover shortages or disruptions stemming from natural disasters or other incidents.

Raul Paredes, a senior official of the Philippines National Oil Company, said the Philippine peso had slumped about 55 per cent against the dollar this year and the country faced the possibility of a second substantial increase in the retail price of petroleum products this year. - Reuter

KIN KWOK'S CHAIRMAN VIEWS PRESS FREEDOM, CHINESE UNITY

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 21 Aug 83 p 2

[Text] Tay Ahn Chuan, board chairman of KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS, proposed today that, if the government's decision to authorize BERNAMA, the Malaysian national news agency, as the sole distributor of foreign news effective next year is to economize capital outflow, then it should allow all domestic newspapers to form a combined, neutral body to distribute all foreign wire service news to member newspapers.

Mr Tay pointed out that our country still enjoys freedom of the press, but this right is likely to be restricted if the government implements its decision to deal with foreign news through the single government agency of BERNAMA. Local newspapers would not get 100 percent of foreign news, and they might not be able to disseminate certain news for the benefit of the general public.

Tay Ahn Chuan, who is also president of the All-Malaysia Youth Solidarity Movement, made these remarks while speaking before a promotional exhibition for his paper in Ipoh this afternoon. Among the dignitaries invited to its opening ceremony were Labor Minister Datuk Mak Hon Kam, who cut the ribbon; Datuk Tan Kim Sing, president of the Perak Chinese Chamber of Commerce; and Yap Eng Geok, Perak state assemblyman and general manager of this paper.

Tay Ahn Chuan pointed out in his speech that 43 years ago, KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS was merely a local newspaper, hand printed and then sold in the streets. Today, he continued, this paper appears before your eyes in a new look, rich in content, detailed in news and fair in opinion, and loved by people of all walks of life.

He said that in this technological age, the communications system is extremely well-developed. An important event taking place in any corner of the globe can reach a newspaper office within a matter of 2 to 3 minutes and, through them, to the public.

To speed up further the dissemination of news to its readers, KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS has installed nine electronic transmitters to carry all domestic news occurrences in all nooks and corners directly to the newspaper's head office, so that our readers can learn of the events within the shortest time possible.

Tay Ahn Chuan stressed that a newspaper must have character and morals and that in reporting news and Chinese community events, it must be fair and impartial in order not to mislead the people.

Speaking about the problem of Chinese solidarity, Mr Tay pointed out that Chinese leaders spend too much time on internal squabbles, which has made it impossible for the Chinese nationals to unite and fight for their common interests. The Chinese leaders must discard their prejudices and jointly work toward their own national salvation by safeguarding their legitimate interests.

He added that in our present Chinese society, newspapers can play the role of saving the Chinese nationals by exposing their deep-rooted common failings, so that they will wake up and rectify their shortcomings, and intensify their spirit of national solidarity.

Whatever activity Chinese leaders are engaged in, Tay stressed, they must use "Chinese interests" as the starting point, but never involve personal grievances, or else the Chinese nationals would slide backward.

He divulged that at present the bumiputras already have controlled 85 percent of the shares of all banks throughout the country. Also, in line with its land development program, the government plans to open up 2.5 million acres and, when the program is completed, the bumiputras will own 70 percent of the total land development area.

On the question of demarcation of national and state electoral districts, Tay pointed out that after the total number of electoral districts has been increased, a district under direct federal jurisdiction with a population of some 900,000 will have its seats increased from 5 to 7 only, but Kelantan state, with a population of more than 800,000, will get 13 seats. From this point, it may be seen that the political rights of the Chinese people will be curtailed.

Consequently, Tay Ahn Chuan hoped that Chinese civic leaders and all compatriots must brace up, get united and march forward to safeguard their rights from being stripped further.

9300

CSO: 4205/2

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF CHINESE SAVINGS FUND WINS SUPPORT

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 30 Aug 83 p 2

[Commentary: "Rally Around Concept of Chinese Savings Fund"]

[Text] Speaking at a "Chinese Economic Symposium" sponsored by the economic bureau of Negeri Sembilan MCA [Malaysian Chinese Association], its national vice president, Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan, brought up the concept of establishing a nationwide Chinese savings fund. His proposal drew the attention of the Chinese community.

From Dr Neo's speech, we can understand that the Chinese savings fund is intended to accumulate and utilize the economic strength of the common people in the Chinese society in the development of commerce and industry. He held that by mustering their strength, the Chinese will have greater opportunities and abilities to participate in the competition and development of big business.

This writer believes that the concept of a Chinese savings fund is correct and significant, because this will bring about three advantages to the Chinese community: first, it can better unify the Chinese society whose members are scattered like grains of sand; second, it gives more opportunities for the Chinese to take part in the country's economic activities; and third, it arouses greater interest among the Chinese in the country's political and economic development.

There is no doubt that the present condition of the Chinese society, either political or economic, is in disarray. Here we propose to discuss our disorganized economic strength.

Ten years ago, most Chinese economic strength was concentrated in individuals. In other words, at that time, Chinese business was conducted in a family style, their capital was limited and their scope of business was small, too. Therefore, no big industry based on Chinese finance ever emerged within scores of years past. This proves that in the past Chinese economic strength was scattered all over.

In recent years, following the establishment of Malayanized cooperatives, Chinese political parties, guilds, alumni clubs and professional associations

also formed cooperatives or share-controlled companies one after the other, with the capital subscribed to by many individuals. This may be said to be the harbinger of enterprises based on the collective economic strength of the Chinese people.

In fact, in promoting savings funds, our Malay compatriots are much better off. They have set up a Mecca Pilgrimage Foundation, National Trust Bureau, Retired Servicemen Cooperative Society, Police Cooperative Society, etc. Accumulating the Malays' floating capital through these organizations has become a huge economic force to the nation.

More importantly, through these same organizations the Malays can develop their economic unity and show their concern about the national economy.

Standing on the premise of Chinese benefits, Datuk Neo's proposal for pushing a Chinese savings fund is absolutely correct. Although this concept was brought up by the MCA, other Chinese organizations, especially business organizations, should rally around it.

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CSO: 4205/3

LACK OF PROTECTION FOR CHINESE RIGHTS CITED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 21 Aug 83 p 7

[Text] Yap Hock Hin, president of the Selangor Federation of Chinese Trade Associations, pointed out today that amid the rapid development of our multi-racial country, the Chinese community generally finds itself in an insecure and worried predicament.

He said that since our national independence, there has never been found a power strong enough to guarantee the legitimate rights of the Chinese in the fields of politics, economy, culture and education, and this lack has become the main reason for insecurity and anxiety among the Chinese people.

Yap made these remarks while dedicating the federation's new building before an invited gathering today.

He said that neither Chinese political parties nor social organizations have succeeded in making a breakthrough against all stumbling blocks and in joining hands in a combined force to uphold Chinese rights.

He maintained that Chinese political strength is confined to political parties which claim to represent 5 million compatriots and which solicit their sympathies and support. He deplored party leaders who so far have not relegated their differences in political theory and joined hands to fight for the interests of the Chinese in general.

There is no solidarity among Chinese mass organizations, either. They are weak and in disarray, he said, adding that he was disappointed by the cool public reaction to an appeal to support the great unity of Chinese organizations.

He stressed that it is now high time for the Chinese community to courageously expose the ugly faces of the dregs of society and clean up the Chinese organizations. He appealed to the Chinese public to make more stringent criticism and demands on Chinese political leaders.

At the same time, he appealed to the leaders of Chinese organizations to nurture more outstanding talents to take part in public activities.

He stressed again that if the Chinese people want to live a glorious life in Malaysia and to get their legitimate rights and fair treatment as stipulated in the constitution, each Chinese political party, social organization and individual must all strive toward the objective of greater unity.

Datuk Wee Chiok Chye, president of the Selangor Chinese Chamber of Commerce, in a short speech before the gathering, praised both Chua Eng Hin, honorary president of the Federation of Chinese Trade Associations, and the current president, Yap Hock Hin, for their fine leadership of the federation. He added that the federation is also making contributions in the field of education.

Datuk Wee described the said federation as the basic and central organization for Chinese business circles in Selangor.

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CSO: 4205/2

CHINESE URGED TO FOCUS ON TEACHING OF CHINESE IN PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 23 Aug 83 p 7

[Text] Dr Koh Chu Ken, head of education bureau of the Malaysian People's Movement [GERAKAN], said in Ipoh that 90 percent of Chinese students are studying in public high schools, while the remainder are in independent high schools. Therefore, he added, the Chinese community should pay closer attention to the question of teaching of the Chinese language in public high schools.

Dr Koh said: "When Chinese students graduate from grade schools into public high schools, they should not lose their opportunity to learn Chinese.

"The Education Act clearly stipulates that if 15 students request to learn Chinese, a Chinese class should be open for them. However, due to administrative deviations, many such requests are not complied with on the pretext that no Chinese teachers are available. That's why we must pay attention to this problem."

He maintained that public high schools should attach great importance to Chinese classes, otherwise the root of the Chinese would be chopped in half. In Penang, some schools regard Chinese as a compulsory course and also a required subject in examinations!

Dr Koh Chu Ken made the above remarks in answer to questions during a political seminar in Ipoh last night.

Questioned about the problem of 3M, he said that the problem has been solved and that the Education Ministry has accepted three of the four requests submitted by Chinese organizations.

He held that the 3M has now become 3K, that is, 3 "Kekurangan" or 3 shortages. The 3K are: 1) shortage of teachers; 2) shortage of classrooms; 3) shortage of teaching aids. He said that with the 3M becoming 3K, the responsibility of teachers has become heavier.

He once appealed to the government that during a recession, expenditures for other programs may be curtailed, but not educational appropriations for any type of schools.

9300

CSO: 4205/3

ESTABLISHMENT OF CHINESE SAVINGS FUND PROPOSED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 29 Aug 83 p 1

[Text] Datuk Dr Neo Yee Pan, national vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], today proposed establishment of a Chinese savings fund to muster Chinese economic power throughout the country and to be coordinated with the "Malaysia, Inc" policy of the Mahathir government.

Datuk Neo said that this concept of accumulating financial strength will place the Chinese in an advantageous position in their economic collaboration with the Malays.

He urged all Chinese to make a positive reaction on the matter through their respective organizations which number nearly 4,000 units throughout the land, for the sake of the economic future of the Chinese society. Otherwise, the Chinese financial strength would be weakened further by the implementation of various economic policies of the present government.

Datuk Neo made these remarks at an economic symposium organized by the Negeri Sembilan MCA in Seremban this morning.

He said he will propose this new concept at a forthcoming ministerial-level MCA conference and consider unfolding the concept of the establishment of a nationwide Chinese savings fund at an opportune time.

He held that during this long past period, there has not been a Chinese institution that carried out the formation of a savings fund to make good use of long-scattered financial power. This is a failure of the Chinese society.

"There is no doubt that in many respects, especially in the concentration of economic strength, the Chinese have got to learn from the other nationals, particularly the Malays," he said.

He called on the entire Chinese people to attach great importance to the savings fund concept. If everybody can save a little money every month, pretty soon the amount will grow into a powerful economic backing.

Datuk Neo said that the 4,000 Chinese organizations in the country should consider the feasibility of this concept. Their active participation will become a powerful economic drive.

He pointed out that under the "Malaysia Inc" concept of the Mahathir government, the Chinese community should make a timely consideration on how to make a positive reaction. Direct Chinese participation in the concept will help improve ownership of their future resources in Malaysia.

He said that the important question is whether the Chinese will have sufficient economic power when they decide to take part in the "Malaysia, Inc" concept. This is no problem for the Malay society, for the Malays already have huge collective economic strength.

"The Chinese community cannot deny that their economic strength is scattered every which way," Datuk Neo said.

He said that the idea of establishing a Chinese savings fund is just one of the ways to collect and utilize Chinese economic power. We can resort to other methods and concepts to realize this objective, he concluded.

0300

CSO: 4205/3

CHINESE YOUTH URGED TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL ACTIVITY

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 22 Aug 83 p 5

[Text] Labor Minister Mak Hon Kam believes that our country may have fabulous natural resources, but they cannot compare with the latent youth power that is awaiting development. Youth possesses unlimited intelligence and vigor, and may be described as a nation's unlimited wealth. No natural resource is as realistic as the wealth of youth by comparison.

These remarks were made by Datuk Mak, who is also acting vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], while officiating at the opening ceremony of a dialogue between the Culture and Youth Ministry and Chinese youths at the MCA Building today.

He said that today's dialogue has a long-term significance. By taking the initiative to attend this dialogue, Chinese youngsters have shown their awareness toward their national responsibility. Datuk Mak hoped that the result of the dialogue will serve well as a compass for Chinese youths in taking an active part in national youth activities.

He said that by using this compass, they will get better effect in pushing major youth activities among Chinese youngsters and in leading them to make greater contributions in national construction.

He cited concrete figures to examine the situation of Chinese youths' participation in national youth activities.

Datuk Mak divulged that as of now, there are about 5,200 youth organizations with a total membership of no more than 1.5 million. This figure does not include youths who do not take part in youth organizations. It is further learned, however, that among the 1.5 million members, 83 percent are Malay youths, and 17 percent are non-Malay. Among the membership of government-recognized youth organizations, Chinese youths account for only 10.6 percent; Malay youths, 76.4 percent; and Indian youths, only 5.5 percent.

"Viewed from the population ratio, the above figures show that among the Malays, 20 percent take part in youth activities, whereas only 4 percent among the Chinese population do so.

"This is not a healthy situation for Malaysia's long-range benefits, because youths account for nearly 60 percent of the total population, and the youth problem is a part of the national problems. The youth population constitutes the greatest source and drive for the wealth of the newly rising Malaysian nation."

Datuk Mak continued that we have learned from the above figures that only a tiny portion of Malaysian Chinese youths' latent great strength, intelligence and vigor has been tapped. Some 96 percent of Chinese youth resources still await development and guidance.

He said that Chinese youths are endowed with many outstanding abilities and conditions for them to fulfill their obligation of national contributions, including the spirit of hard work and fine traditions and virtues inherited from their ancestors. Chinese youths' intelligence can be given full play in various fields, including economic and technological fields, as well as their manpower contributions to the nation.

How can we lead the untapped resources of Chinese youths toward economic and technological fields and national manpower? In Datuk Mak's opinion, there are two things to be taken into consideration: attitude and outlook.

He said: "Today, a Chinese youth should think positively and take the initiative in getting involved in youth organizations which are subsidiary to the Malaysian National Youth Council. At the present time, the Youth Solidarity Movement and the Youth League are the only two organizations whose memberships are composed largely of Chinese youths. Chinese youngsters who have not taken part in any youth organization may get an opportunity to play a role in the national youth mainstream by joining these two Chinese youth organizations."

Youth leaders of youth organizations with large Chinese youth membership should have a farsighted objective by unfolding their overall plan in the Chinese community and recruiting more Chinese youths into their organizations.

Social workers and national leaders also have the responsibility of nurturing more youth leaders, developing their talents, providing them with opportunities and teaching them how to become leaders.

Datuk Mak believes that the youth organizations found among thousands of Chinese civic bodies within the Chinese society represent a tremendous force. It is the duty of civic leaders to encourage the youngsters to branch out and come into contact with the Ministry of Youth, so that our youth organizations can be incorporated into the national youth mainstream for further development and role-playing. Only in this manner can Chinese youths be capable of outstanding achievements by giving their long-lasting resources full play in national construction. At the same time, the great masses of Chinese youths, like their Malay brethren, can enjoy the attentions, cultivation and respect accorded them by the nation.

Earlier, the deputy minister of culture, youth and sports, Datin Paduka Chew Po Chun, said in a speech that his first encounter between her ministry and the Chinese youths carries great significance. Through this dialogue, it is hoped that the activities sponsored by the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports will get positive participation and reaction of Chinese youth organizations.

She said that all of us should openly and sincerely seek ways to solve existing problems and to improve the activity blueprint of the ministry in order to promote and strengthen the relationship between the youth and the government, as well as making an effective contribution to the youth development plan.

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CSO: 4205/2

AQUINO ASSASSINATION DAMAGES MARCOS' IMAGE

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text] When Aquino walked out of the plane and down the ramp, he knew that he would meet with multiple difficulties and dangers. He had been well prepared for the contingency by wearing a bulletproof vest. However, the merciless bullet pierced his head, ending his journey to the tiger's lair.

As President Marcos' most powerful political foe, Aquino's death not only brought uneasiness to the Philippine political situation, but also dropped a bombshell.

As a matter of fact, when Aquino announced on 7 June last his intention to end his 3-year exile in America and to return to the Philippines to push his anti-Marcos "nonviolence movement," the Philippine authorities spared no effort in dissuading him from doing so. On 19 July, Aquino received a message via the Philippine Consulate General in New York, requesting him to abandon his intention of going home, because, according to an intelligence report, "if you come home, a certain group will assassinate you with a view to embarrassing the government."

The crux of the problem was in the matter of timing. Columnist Gavalencia [phonetic], who usually reflects official Philippine opinion, had written a piece warning Aquino that "it would be best not to return home at the scheduled time," but promising him that "before the end of this year" he would be permitted to come back. It was evident that Aquino's return at this time would place the authorities in a dilemma.

Nevertheless, Aquino had a plan of his own. With the Philippine parliamentary elections scheduled for next May, to go back now would be risky, yet opportune. For Aquino would be able to reorganize the disarrayed opposition parties into a meaningful force. Aquino already made known this plan while giving testimony before a U.S. Congressional session last month.

Now the fact has proved that as soon as Aquino landed on his native land, the assassination plot was already awaiting him. Can it be explained that he had only himself to blame, because he had ignored the warning?

That's right, the intelligence report from the authorities clearly said that that "certain group" was plotting to assassinate Aquino out of "vengeance," because "Aquino and his men had killed their relatives." This also explains that the so-called "group" that plotted the murder can be traced.

If the Philippine authorities really believed that the "government could be held responsible" for any accident or incident that might befall Aquino upon his return, why did the security authorities not adopt effective precautionary measures?

After the incident, no matter how President Marcos condemned the assassination "in the strongest possible terms," and guaranteed that he "would do his utmost to get the truth," Aquino's death has undoubtedly brought a certain degree of damage to the President's image.

In particular, the damage will also be reflected in the new parliament after the general elections next May. It was originally thought that the coming parliament would be "capable of making contributions and relatively independent and not a rubberstamp one." But now whether the elections can be held as scheduled is a big problem.

The Philippines is a member of ASEAN. It is, of course, unfortunate that the political situation over there has become unstable, especially because the Philippines still retains the U.S. naval and air base which is responsible for the balance of military power in the ASEAN region and which plays an important role in safeguarding the security and ability of this region.

9300

CSO: 4205/2

DATUK NEO: MCA MUST CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 22 Aug 83 p 5

[Text] Datuk Neo Yee Pan, national vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association [MCA], said that as a responsible political party in Malaysia, where its politics, society and economy are developing rapidly, the MCA must continue to provide the Chinese community with leadership and policies so we can keep pace with the nation.

He added that if we are in disarray, we will become stagnant, and this will bring no benefit to the Chinese community.

Datuk Neo, who is concurrently minister for housing and local government, was making a speech at the opening ceremony of a symposium on basic-level leadership organized by a MCA branch and held in the Merlin Hotel today, when he uttered the above remarks.

Datuk Neo pointed out that in the past the MCA has drawn up a series of blueprints, including its Ten Major Plans and Eight Major Policies, as guiding principles for the Chinese community to lead in the fields of social economy, politics, culture and education.

He said: "Recently the government announced the enforcement of several reforms and new concepts, including the "Malaysia, Inc" and government-private joint enterprise policies, in order to push forward Malaysia's progress and development.

"It is essential for the people to understand the basic reasons for these reforms and new concepts, so they can keep abreast with the development."

Dr Neo stressed that the MCA will continue to offer opportunities not only to individuals with ability and wisdom to take part in the party's leadership level, but also to new bright members for training.

He said that as a political party, the MCA bears a political mission. "Our political struggle may be likened to a relay race, and we must attain the objectives of our political struggle. So we must nurture bright young talents to build up a large batch of leaders with ability and moral character."

He added: "With the party's interests as a major premise, our members must energetically strengthen and maintain the party's solidarity and good public image, so that the MCA will grow powerful and gain public respect with the passing of time."

Datuk Dr Neo indicated that the MCA is a huge political organization and it can accommodate wise and talented people who are willing to make contributions for our party's struggle.

"The MCA must continue to energetically cultivate more talented and capable young people to push the party's political struggle and mission to the best of their ability."

He said that before our eyes still lie many uncompleted political, socio-economic, educational and cultural tasks which must be tackled by us collectively and energetically. If we are sincere in serving our party, we absolutely cannot afford to break up.

Datuk Neo said that ample opportunities are still available in the MCA's leadership level for new bright talents who are willing to serve the party and the Chinese society.

He said that the MCA carries out the principle of collective leadership and collective responsibility to consolidate and unify the party's organization.

9300

CSO: 4205/2

POLITICAL MATURITY OF MALAY LEADERS LAUDED

Selangor KIN KWOK DAILY NEWS in Chinese 23 Aug 83 p 2

[Commentary]

[Text] In a policy speech delivered before a UMNO [United Malays National Organization] conference, Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr Mahathir openly supported Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Musa Hitam.

Rumors spreading in political circles and among the people to the effect that the prime minister and the deputy prime minister hold mutual grudges and differing viewpoints have become a popular topic of conversation. Some people said the prime minister wants to learn from the East thoroughly, but the deputy prime minister does not. Others even said the reason the prime minister supports the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, Anwar Ibrahim, is that he wants to curb Datuk Musa Hitam's strength. All these divisive and destructive rumors disappeared into thin air following the prime minister's speech at the UMNO conference.

Judging by the prime minister's speech there, we can see that in political matters our Malay compatriots are more mature than we are, despite our boast of 5,000 years of cultural background. Never mind whether the two chiefs of state do not see things eye to eye, the prime minister's assertion has shut up all wags that attempted to hurt the party's unity and at the same time has stopped all gossip instigators.

Looking at Chinese politics in our political arena, to ask for strict "unanimity" or to seek a common ground amid differences would be a fruitless approach--like climbing a tree to catch fish. Any "comrade" who entertains a different ideal or opinion is certain to be muscled out in a clever and indirect manner. As soon as the ouster is decided upon, the leadership of the party concerned would instruct all branches to issue public notices and press statements attacking and vilifying the intended target. These notices and statements are authored by a "hatchet man" and signed perfunctorily by the party branches. This kind of politics is worse than a virago yelling in the street, uttering abusive language without justification.

Political differences and struggles also exist among our Malay compatriots, but their squabbles are carried out internally and quietly, without public fanfare or mud-slinging.

Within the UMNO, except for the positions of chairmen and administrative chairman, which are seldom challenged, competitions for the other vice chairmen and central committee positions are "open" and keen. This is a healthy arrangement. But if all key appointments are allotted by internal decision, it is not only undemocratic but also detrimental to the growth and development of the party. When can we see Chinese politics getting mature?

9300

CS0: 4205/3

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON AQUINO'S ASSASSINATION

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 28 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial]

[Excerpt] Aquino is dead.

Aquino's death was really beautiful beyond compare and replete with romantic sentiments. We are not merely referring to that tragic moment, which was only a transition, but to his entire life--from his imprisonment to his banishment, throughout his journey, the sincerity toward his self-confidence, his deep love of his homeland, his sense of responsibility toward those who supported him, all of which finally pushed him into the peak of his tragedy, welcome by the God of Death.

Beginning the 1960's, both President Marcos and Aquino may truly be described as sparkling gems. Ever since their youth, they displayed their abilities, including literary talent, and became idols of the younger generation. If Aquino were to have become president of the Philippines, could he have ruled the country better? Nobody knew, and no one will know it forever. Both of them could not join hands to rule their country, and we do not know how the Philippine people would think about this point. At the present time, Aquino's death, which was deplorable and unavoidable, was filled with social factors, personality conflicts, political opinions and differences in family background. Compared with Malaysia, both countries are full of complex, complicated social backgrounds, but we are able to find, in a different phase, experienced and stable leaders to lead our country. Perhaps this may be regarded as the "good luck" of the Malaysian people.

Who slew Aquino? Let us not make a guess. (Human history is full of doubtful cases.) However, Aquino, as a man, was courageous and fearless. He inherited the traditions of Philippine national heroes of the past generations, many of whom had high-level cultural breeding and disposition in their fight for independence, Jose Rizal being one of the best known national heroes. As a person who believed that public affairs constituted his personal responsibility, Aquino could of course find his idol from the history of his country, and we have every reason to believe that Jose Rizal was Aquino's prototype of a national hero and that Aquino stepped into Rizal's domain.

Jose Rizal was the most outstanding Philippine hero when he resisted Spanish domination of his country at the end of the 19th century. Rizal was at once a doctor, author, poet, artist, philologist, biologist and a revolutionary. When he was captured and sentenced to death by the Spaniards, he was only 35 years old. His death coincided with the beginning year of revolution of the Philippine people in 1896. Rizal's lifespan was short, but it was replete with legends. On the eve of his execution, his wife resolutely entered the jail and formally married him, then smuggled out Rizal's last poetry entitled "The Last Farewell" which practically every Filipino youth has been able to recite since. This touching scene has added to the tragic legendary beauty of Rizal's life. It is no wonder that many Filipino youths have said that in our body flows Rizal's blood.

9300

CSO: 4205/3

NEED FOR ERADICATING TIN SMUGGLING DISCUSSED

Selangor SIN CHEW JIT POH MALAYSIA in Chinese 25 Aug 83 p 2

[Editorial: "Eradicate Tin Smuggling Activities"]

[Text] To counter the recent open statement by Rahim Aki, president of the Malayan Mining Affairs Union, advocating the closure of small-scale mines, representatives of the Malayan Chinese Mining Affairs Federation, the Perak Chinese Mining Affairs Union and the Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang Mining Affairs Union, convened a joint emergency meeting and resolved to seek a clarification through a dialogue with Rahim Aki to wipe out the anxiety and misunderstanding among Chinese tin miners.

Although Rahim Aki already issued a press clarification and denial on 22 August, it behooves the Malayan Mining Affairs Union, which represents big mines, to hold a dialogue with the three above-mentioned representatives who are acting in behalf of various small-scale mines. The main purpose of the confrontation is to find out the real stumbling block to the problem of tin smuggling in order to cope with their common difficulties.

There is no doubt that the rampant, illegal smuggling activities have resulted in serious sabotage and directly affected the development of our tin industry.

As our country is the world's largest tin producer and exporter, a drop in the tin price would be a big blow to us. That is why we have made most vigorous efforts to maintain the price of tin all these years. In order to help small-scale sand-pump mines to tide over the current difficulties, the Finance Ministry announced in October last year that the government would not levy a tin export tax before and until the price of tin reaches M\$26.40 per kilogram.

To a certain degree, this tax exemption has lightened the burden of sand-pump mines and of course it was welcomed by tin industry circles.

However, the government's lowering of tin taxation has evidently given smugglers a good opportunity. A report in the FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW pointed out that as the Thai Government levies a heavy tax on tin exports, amounting to 3,300-3,400 bahts per picul on the average, certain tin owners in South

Thailand colluded with certain influential groups in engaging in tin smuggling activities. According to statistics released by the Thailand Mining Affairs Bureau, the volume of tin smuggled out of the country from October 1981 to April 1983 reached 5,600 metric tons. The same source also revealed that officials of both Thailand and Malaysia believe that the tin, which was smuggled out of Thailand, under cover of bogus documents falsifying its "place of origin," was blatantly refined in two tin-smelting factories located in Penang, molded into ingots, stored in warehouses and finally exported overseas together with Malaysia-produced tin ingots.

At a time when our country is making a great sacrifice by limiting our tin production by as much as 30 percent of our total production, in conformity with the export control of the International Tin Council, such rampant smuggling activities are really giving our industry an extra heavy blow.

It happens that there is a similar case. The influential publication of the international tin industry, called TIN INTERNATIONAL, also reported a similar case. It divulged that the smuggled tin, most of it originating from Thailand, totaled 11,000 metric tons. The report added, however, that the destination of this contraband was Singapore.

At any rate, as pointed out by TIN INTERNATIONAL, the tin smuggling signifies a big loophole in the line of supply and demand. Amid the multiple risks of the tin industry, it is essential for us to shut off this loophole. Of course, to do so we need Thailand's full cooperation. While carrying out this endeavor, perhaps our authorities can also work through the tin smelting factories to stringently prevent the recurrence of falsification of "place of goods' origin" documents, thereby making it impossible for the smugglers to fish in troubled waters.

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CSO: 4205/3

PHILIPPINES

COLUMNIST ON U.S. INTEREST IN VICE PRESIDENCY IDEA

HK011313 Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 1 Nov 83 p 4

[Article by Jesus Bigornia: "U.S. Behind Move To Restore VP Position?"]

[Excerpt] America's hand works in mysterious ways. A persistent clamor for the creation of the position of vice president of the Philippines could be one of these ways. For it is an open secret in Philippine financial circles that creditors of the Philippines have been exerting pressure on the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to withhold the grant of special drawing rights to this country until (1) a successor to President Marcos, in case of incapacitation, resignation or death, is named and confirmed, and (2) government monopoly of trading in copra and sugar is abolished.

Early on, the voices proposing a definite successor to the president were mere "voices in the wilderness." The people had offered no strong objection to an Executive Committee as a caretaker pending the election of a successor to present incumbent should he resign, become incapacitated or die. It was only after the Philippine Government found itself in financial trouble did the clamor for the election of a vice president become strident. Naturally nervous about the President's reported health, American bankers as well as American interests here do not relish the prospect of dealing with a seven-man committee.

For the information of the many who are not familiar with the language of high finance, and in order to understand the importance of special drawing rights to the Philippines at this time, it must be pointed out that its grant by the IMF is confirmation of the claims of Philippine fiscal officials that the credit of this country is good, that the Philippine Government can be trusted by creditors to pay back what it owes them. Since the creditors are American banks and the IMF dominated by the United States, it becomes evident that the movement on whose crest Assemblyman Arturo Tolentino would ride to popularity is American-sponsored.

Philippine officialdom, outraged by a resolution of the U.S. House of Representatives calling for a thorough and impartial investigation of the Aquino slaying, now have an opportunity to retaliate. American invasion of the tiny Republic of Grenada in the Caribbean has opened the door for the

Marcos administration to rap the United States across the knuckles. Since he was first in airing a protest against "American interference in purely internal affairs of the Philippines," Batasan Speaker Querube Makalintal should initiate the countermove in the lawmaking body of this country.

It is suggested that the Batasan approve a resolution addressed to President Reagan demanding an explanation for American reversion to gunboat diplomacy. The Grenada invasion suggests the picture of Goliath and David, except that in the Grenada affair there is no Almighty to guide puny David's stone right smack into the giant's cranium. If Washington can and does interfere in Philippine domestic affairs, the Reagan administration should not complain if Manila follows the American example. Of course, the Marcos administration is not expected to do so. Still, it is a thought.

CSO: 4200/143

OBSERVERS FEAR 'STATE OF ECONOMIC EMERGENCY'

HK250115 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Oct 83 p 2

[Article by Rigoberto D. Tiglao, reporter: "State of Economic Emergency Seen"]

[Text] The government's call for a moratorium on debt payments has triggered a chain of events leading to what some in the financial community describe as a "state of economic emergency" which, if unsolved in the next few weeks, will result in massive layoffs of workers before yearend.

"After the smoke clears, that Dewey Dee crisis 2 years ago will look like a picnic," a vice-president of a major bank commented, referring to the financial crisis that followed Dee's flight from the country when he had some P650 million in debts.

However, Prime Minister Cesar Virata in a press briefing Friday gave assurances that the Philippine economy would go over "this big hump." He explained that in comparison to the 1970 rescheduling of the Central Bank's debts, the country's "basic economic structure is sounder than before."

Virata nonetheless underscored the gravity of the current situation, pointing to a "liquidity crisis." "It is unfortunate that the political events that have been adverse to us took place at the lowest ebb of our economy during the world recession," he said. "They compounded our problems."

Crisis: He outlined the financial difficulties, which appeared more severe than in previous accounts:

--About \$3 billion is involved in the 90-day moratorium on principal payments, including the Central Bank's [CB] obligations of \$1.7 billion. This represents the total amount that the country would have paid between last 17 October and 16 January 1984, if it had not requested for the payments' suspension. Virata explained that the amount to be "frozen" reached this amount because the "situation had become such that all of what we used to pay over a long period of time got compressed into 3 months." The 1970 rescheduling, in comparison, involved only \$250 million of CB obligations.

--The Central Bank's gross international reserve as of last week was down to \$500 million, compared to the third-lowest figure in the past decade of \$549 million (in 1972). According to the government's cable requesting the 90-day suspension, "the international reserve is projected to be about \$600 million for the balance of the fourth quarter." The \$500-million reserve is less than the country's monthly import financing requirements of about \$600 million.

--"The government will be instituting import controls temporarily, considering our liquidity crisis," Virata also disclosed. However, he said there will be no controls on "item-by-item basis" but "only guidelines to the banking system." In the past, import controls had been one of the last-resort tools in overcoming a crisis in the balance of payments, as in the 1950s. The gravity of the present situation can be seen in that the country's loans both from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank are made on the condition that no import controls are made. The present standby arrangement with the IMF for 315 million special drawing rights (SDRS, equivalent to \$334 million) provides that the credit line will be suspended if the country "imposes or intensifies import restrictions for balance-of-payments reasons."

Trade Financing: Virata last week also confirmed reports that the opening of new letters of credit (L/Cs) had virtually halted since last week. "What's happening now is that domestic banks are hesitating to open L/Cs because they haven't squared off their (foreign exchange) positions," he said. "This is because no fresh (foreign exchange) credits are coming."

The Central Bank last week also acknowledged, although indirectly, the problem in trade financing when it issued MAAB (memorandum to authorized agent banks) under which they were "authorized to liquidate overdrafts with foreign banks arising from letters of credit with maturities of up to 360 days out of their foreign exchange resources."

Banks had been aware that the 90-day debt payment suspension does not cover trade-related credits. Their problem was that their foreign exchange positions had drastically deteriorated because of massive withdrawals of foreign currency deposits they held.

Some banks also reported that their correspondents banks recently have refused to honor their L/Cs because of the risk that the country may not be able to honor even trade-related obligations.

Virata last Friday, however, indicated that one solution to the trade-financing problem the government was working out was for the U.S. Export-Import Bank to guarantee commercial banks' letters of credit. He said that the U.S. Eximbank may cover around \$150 million in L/Cs which can be used for imports from the United States. A similar approach was being negotiated through commodity loans from Japan, Virata said.

Sources in the financial community said that such trade-financing difficulties usually accompanied debt reschedulings in other countries. They claimed that because of this trade-financing placements a chain of events leading to an economic crisis was already in motion.

Cut Down: The drop in imports caused by the trade-financing difficulty and government's measures to dampen imports will necessarily require a cutdown in industrial production, which will result in mass layoffs of workers.

A scramble for raw materials, and even consumption goods, has resulted in major withdrawals of funds from banks to finance inventories.

"One major industrial company, for instance, which had been procuring an aluminum raw material on a 2-month basis, 2 weeks ago opened an order for a 1-year supply," a banker disclosed. "There seems to be no way for government to stop the hedging and the hoarding which has siphoned funds off from the financial system," another bank commented.

Already, sources claimed, the withdrawal of funds has hit severely the lowest tier in the financial system: a group of finance companies have agreed among themselves to call for "forced rollover" of money market placements with them.

Because of this situation the Central Bank last Friday issued a press statement saying it was prepared to fully assist any investment house or finance company that may encounter any difficulties servicing maturing money market placements made by their clients.

Sources said the withdrawals have hit almost all types of financial institutions, even commercial banks. The funds are being used not only to finance the buildup of inventories but also to buy dollars in the black market, they claimed.

CSO: 4200/143

GOVERNMENT BUDGET DEFICIT REDUCED BY ONE-THIRD

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 30 Oct 83 p 15

[Text]

Budgetary cash operations of the national government during the first nine months showed a significant improvement as the deficit was reduced to P3.0 billion, from P9.0 billion during the same period last year.

The Central Bank said that the reduction in budget deficit resulted in more credit available to the private sector.

Revenues amounted to P30.4 billion as of August, representing an increase of 17.7 per cent over the level during the same period last year.

It said the increase in revenues was the result of the implementation of new tax measures such as the advance payment of customs duties and the

3.0 per cent ad valorem tax on imports.

Following the implementation of a public expenditure reduction program, as well as the adoption of belt-tightening measures by the government, the level of expenditures as of August declined by 7.8 per cent to P33.5 billion.

This decline in expenditure came mostly from a reduction in capital outlays.

Equity contributions to government firms were also reduced as releases were limited to only those implementing top priority projects.

At the same time, more government corporations were required to either increase the internal generation of funds through increasing

operational efficiency, pricing adjustments, and scaling down of investment programs.

Infrastructure expenditure during the first eight months were likewise cut.

However, operating expenditures increased due largely to increased disbursements for personnel services and interest payments.

The P3.0 billion budget deficit was financed largely from domestic borrowings which amounted to P4.1 billion, mainly from the issuance of bonds.

Foreign borrowings amounted to \$1.9 billion.

Net borrowings were larger than the deficit, resulting in an increased cash balance of the national government.

CENTRAL BANK CHIEF'S PROGRAM FOR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 30 Oct 83 p 15

[Text] A seven-point package to correct the balance-of-payments imbalance was presented the other day by Central Bank Governor Jaime C. Laya to President Marcos.

This package includes additional measures which should be taken as a follow-up to the 21.4 percent peso devaluation last Oct 25 and other policy guidelines now in place.

The package consists of the following:

1. Renewed export effort;
2. Energy conservation;
3. Domestic substitution of imports;
4. Continued review of capital-intensive investments both public and private, energy and industrial;
5. Austerity program in the public sector through further reduction in the budgetary deficit;
6. Austerity program in the private sector with availability of credits only to productive sectors; and
7. Police action against smuggling and strict enforcement of anti-dollar salting regulations.

Laya said that the full cooperation of the private and the public sectors the current economic difficulties could be overcome.

He said that while it might be expected that in the last quarter exports will improve even more sharply, workers' remittances will continue to accelerate and tightness in the international capital markets will ease, implementation of some further belt-tightening measures was still imperative.

Laya added that the Oct 5 peso devaluation was meant to be the major dose to correct the BOP problem because the adjustment would enhance more the incomes of exporters.

It should also discourage importation further.

During the nine-month period (January-September), the trade deficit was reduced from \$2.0 billion to \$1.76 billion as exports improved and imports declined.

CSO: 4200/147

INDUSTRY AGREES TO GOVERNMENT CONTROLS

OW211323 Hong Kong AFP in English 0829 GMT 21 Oct 83

[Report by Eduardo Lacson]

[Text] Manila, 21 Oct (AFP)--Philippine industry leaders today agreed to cut back imports, and accept government controls as the country wrestles with a massive balance of payments deficit, despite a 90-day breather on repayment of loans.

Businessmen volunteered to cut back imports by 15 percent, give marginal deposits on imports of up to 100 percent of the merchandise's value, accept government control of nonessential imports and encourage domestic manufacturers to export.

The 90-day "standstill" given by the Philippine creditors last weekend applies only to maturing loans and trade is not included.

At their meeting today, industry leaders agreed a resolution to the turbulent political situation was essential for economic recovery.

The balance of payments (BOP) deficit could reach a staggering \$2 billion by the end of the year, along with inflation topping 18 percent, the businessmen said. The BOP deficit is almost double last year's \$1.13 billion and had already resulted in what most private businessmen call "technically, a default" in foreign debts repayments by the Philippines.

The peso was devalued by over 21 percent resulting in an exchange rate to the U.S. dollar of 14 to 1.

A top industry leader told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE after the meeting that "reconciliation is very important...we must put aside personalities, we are all Filipinos."

The usually staid businessmen and the equally silent white collar workers have taken to the streets in the past 5 weeks in the Philippines' premier financial district of Makati, something unthinkable before 21 August when opposition leader Benigno Aquino was assassinated. These and other mass protests, all demanding that President Ferdinand Marcos resign, have scared off foreign investors, lenders, tourists, conventioners and with them needed foreign exchange, sources said.

Raul Concepcion, chairman of a "private sector BOP task force" told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, "I think if we all pull together, little by little we'll see a little light," but declined to say when.

In the last 7 days, Philippines' Prime Minister and Finance Minister Cesar Virate and Central Bank Governor Jaime Laya had to persuade 350 foreign lenders to hold off collecting for 90 days.

There have also been reports of illegal foreign exchange outflows estimated at over \$200 million for the third quarter alone, some \$300 million of investments withdrawn, banks speculating on the peso by buying dollars at well over the official exchange rate from servicemen in the two large U.S. military bases here.

The president went on nationwide television immediately after the October devaluation to say that prices will remain at current levels for at least 3 months. Thereafter, several grocery stores and supermarkets have been closed for alleged overpricing.

But consumer durables cost over 16 percent more, while car prices have jumped by as much as 30 percent according to buyers despite denials by the car dealers. Oil prices are expected to rise in price soon by 15 percent.

Workers are restive and rallies are being planned by labor unions. The first is scheduled for 27 October in support of demands for wage increases of up to 60 percent. The government has offered up to 11 percent.

Some 6,000 telephone workers walked out on strike today, half paralysing operations for half a day until a Labor Ministry order forced the workers back to their stations.

CSO: 4200/143

BUSINESSMEN CITE POLITICAL NATURE OF PROBLEMS

HK250129 Manila BUSINESS DAY in English 24 Oct 83 pp 5-6

[Article by Businessmen's Committee for Reconciliation: "The Problem, Mr President, Is Political, Not Financial"]

[Text] During his recent consultations with several groups of businessmen, the President has focused primarily on the financial crisis and appealed to businessmen for help in resolving this crisis. He has asked the businessmen to use their influence to stop the public demonstrations which have had a negative impact on our image abroad, particularly among foreign bankers and investors.

Each group of businessmen in those meetings attempted to persuade the President that the financial crisis itself was not the real problem, but was in fact merely a consequence of the underlying political problem precipitated by the tragic assassination of former Senator Benigno Aquino on 21 August. At one of the meetings Bernardo Villegas of the Center for Research and Communication (CRC), advised the President that CRC's economic data base had clearly shown that the domestic economy was well on the way to recovery by June and July. Villegas concluded that there was no doubt whatsoever that it was the political reaction to the assassination which dramatically reversed this recovery, and plunged the economy into its present crisis.

Although the President did not dispute Villegas' statements, businessmen who had attended the other meetings indicated that the President was not receptive to their assertions to the effect that the relevant problem was political credibility rather than the financial crisis. Thus, it remains unclear exactly what the President's attitude is.

What is all too clear, however, is that the President's own perception of the real nature of the problem is of vital importance, because the problem will not be solved if he tried to cure the symptoms rather than the disease. We submit that until and unless the President accepts the premise that the real problem is political rather than financial, the problem will indeed not be solved, and the financial crisis will not only remain, but probably worsen.

Assuming, however, that the President can ultimately be persuaded to accept that the problem is fundamentally political in nature, can he in fact solve the problem, and if so, how? We submit that this problem, like any other, is capable of ultimate solution, but it will not be easy by any means. And in the final analysis, only the President himself will be able to solve it, provided he is willing to take the difficult steps required.

How can the problem be solved? There are probably many number of ways, but for whatever it is worth, we propose the following three-step approach:

Step one: Restore public confidence in the investigation of the Aquino assassination. The original investigative commission failed because the public never accepted that the commission was truly independent of the President, because the members and particularly the chairman were considered Marcos loyalists, because the commission was formed hastily and without adequate consultations outside the President's own circle of advisers, and because the President himself kept making public statements which were interpreted as prejudging the outcome of the investigation before it had even started.

The recent creation by presidential decree of a new, independent fact-finding board along the lines suggested by Assemblyman Tolentino is certainly a step in the right direction. This time around, however, the President should take care not to decide the final composition or the chairmanship of the board until it is clear that the nominees will be acceptable to the various sectors involved, in particular the political opposition. More importantly, once the board is constituted, the President should inhibit himself and his official family from making any further public statements concerning the assassination in order to allow the board to proceed with genuine independence. It would also add greatly to the restoration of public confidence if all sessions of the fact-finding board could be broadcast live on TV and radio to allay fears about a possible whitewash, as well as to keep the public accurately informed as to whether or not the investigation is proceeding in a credible fashion.

Step two: Resolve the succession issue in a convincing manner. Second only to the assassination itself, the sensitive issue of presidential succession appears to be of paramount concern to virtually everyone at this time, with the notable exception of the President himself. In the consultations with businessmen referred to earlier, the President was adamant that the grave concern expressed by everyone on this issue was groundless. He insisted that there was nothing seriously wrong with his health despite widespread speculation to the contrary, and indicated that he had no intention of resigning or dying. He also insisted that the constitutional provisions governing succession in the event of his incapacity or death were unequivocal, and that the military is sworn to uphold the Constitution, thereby ensuring orderly succession.

The fact remains, however, that if the President should depart from the scene, most people fear there will be a power play among the political factions within the Executive Committee, in the course of which the military

would inevitably be dragged into the political arena. And no amount of presidential assurances to the contrary will ever convince the public otherwise. In consequence, if the President continues to dismiss this issue as irrelevant, all his other efforts to win back public confidence will be in vain.

Assuming, however, that the President can be persuaded to address this problem squarely, what will it take to convince the public that he is sincere about ensuring orderly succession? We believe the President will have to do at least two things. First, he will have to find some means to persuade certain individuals to give up their present positions of power because these individuals are perceived by the public as serious obstacles to orderly succession. Everyone knows who these individuals are and everyone recognizes how difficult it will be for the President to persuade them to step aside. But if they are sincere in their desire to help the President, they ought to be willing to sacrifice whatever personal ambitions they might have in order to diffuse the present crisis and restore public confidence.

The second thing the President will have to do is to sponsor Batasan legislation calling for a referendum to amend the Constitution so that in the event an incumbent president dies, or is incapacitated, his powers automatically transfer to the prime minister (rather than to the Executive Committee as presently provided). The prime minister would then assume the presidency and its powers in a caretaker capacity until a presidential election is held within 6 months (rather than 45 to 60 days as presently provided) in order to allow legitimate candidates adequate time to undertake a nationwide campaign. During the period when the prime minister is acting as caretaker president, he should not be subject to removal from office by a "no-confidence" vote of the Batasan as provided in the present Constitution.

Step three: Accept the proposal to form a national council for reconciliation now. The urgent clamor for reforms is clearly widespread and intensely felt, as evidenced by the frequency and popularity of the public demonstrations since 21 August, and in particular by the large-scale participation of previously "indifferent" middle- and upper-class segments of the population. With the exception of "Marcos Resign," the other demands being made (e.g., "Justice For Aquino") at these demonstrations are for the most part not unreasonable, and involve nothing more than the restoration of basic democratic freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution, such as freedom of peaceful assembly, freedom of speech and the press, freedom from arbitrary arrest and detention, freedom of the electoral process, freedom of the judiciary, freedom of enterprise, and so on.

Responding effectively to these demands, however, is not a simple matter that can be accomplished by mere presidential consent or the stroke of a pen. Each of these issues has taken on complex and subtle nuances which have become woven into the fabric of present-day Philippine society during the 11-year period since the advent of martial law in 1972. And it will require extensive discussion and "reconciliation" before consensus can be

reached as to what precisely needs to be done not only by government, but by all other sectors of society in order to restore these freedoms effectively and to the satisfaction of the public.

We submit that this is a task that cannot be effectively undertaken by the President or the government alone, and that a council of advisers along the lines proposed by Cardinal Sin and others, is the ideal vehicle for resolving the thorny and complex issues involved. The President has already stated publicly that he does not object to having such a council, provided he reserves the right to make the final decisions. If that is the case, the President should now take positive steps to ensure that an acceptable council is organized with the active participation of the relevant sectors, so that the urgent task of national reconciliation can proceed posthaste. Until such a council is organized, the President will continue to find himself locked in head-to-head confrontation with the public, and the demonstrations that he wants to end will instead continue in earnest.

There is no guarantee, of course, that the three-step approach outlined above, or any other approach for that matter, will be sufficient to restore public confidence at this time. Certainly, such an approach will not be sufficient to convince those who are angrily agitating for the President's resignation and will settle for nothing less.

But the acid test will focus on the issue of presidential succession. If the President moves swiftly and decisively on this issue, we believe that most people would be willing at that point to meet him halfway, and it would then be possible to negotiate a moratorium on public demonstrations while the fact-finding board proceeds with its investigation and the council of advisers begins its difficult task of reconciliation.

CSO: 4200/143

ANTISUBVERSIVE EFFORTS IN SOUTH NOTED

Commander Warns of MNLF-NPA 'Coordination'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Oct 83 p 6

[Text] ZAMBOANGA CITY--Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Delfin C. Castro described the situation in Mindanao as generally peaceful and improving.

General Castro said that except for some minor disturbances in Misamis Occidental and between the boundaries of the two Zamboanga provinces--Zamboanga del Sur and del Norte--the Mindanao area is peaceful.

On the policy of reconciliation, General Castro said that in Mindanao the Muslims and Christians are enjoying peace and are united as one Filipino people.

He added that more reconciliation efforts between the government and the MNLF should be undertaken. "Although fragmented, the MNLF has a fairly sizeable armed force which might tie up anytime with the Communist Party of the Philippines to form a united and broad front against the government."

Sulu Rehabilitation Program

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Oct 83 p 7

[Text] JOLO, Sulu--Gov. Muss Sali Izquierdo of Sulu said that the provincial government is now busy rehabilitating rebel returnees socio-economic projects to bring about peace and prosperity in the area have become the main objective of his administration.

The governor said Sulu has concentrated on economic growth since initiation of the integrated development of southern Philippines by the national government.

The seven point socio-economic programs expected to boost provincial coffers as bared by Izquierdo are:

1. Barter trading which has been authorized by government under Presidential Decree No. 93 and a plan to make Jolo the center of barter trading in the country.

2. The Sulu Agro Industrial complex which has the technical capability of converting 250 tons of raw copra into coconut oil per month.
3. Cooperative fishing which will benefit more people with government assistance.
4. A P130,000 manpower training center, including supplies and materials to be provided by the Southern Philippines Development authority (SPDA).
5. Infrastructure development program loan grant of P7 million from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Bank for Rural Development (IBRD).
6. Intensification of abaca fiber and marine products export program.
7. Establishment of five rural health units at P10,000 each and six barangay health stations at P42,000 each.

Izquierdo said the province of Sulu is now enjoying unprecedented peace and order and prosperity.

CSO: 4200/137

COLUMNIST ATTACKS MARCOS' BID AGAINST VICE PRESIDENCY

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Oct 83 p 4

[Article by Jesus Bigornia in his daily column: "Recognition Finally Comes to YADO Group"]

[Excerpt] In squelching a bipartisan move in the Batasang Pambansa for the revival of the position of vice president, President Marcos declared there are more serious problems requiring the attention of government than a constitutional amendment that would revert the prevailing system of government to the presidential type. Nobody in his right mind can disagree with the President's assessment of the national situation. With due respect, however, proponents of the change, be they in government or be they in the private sector, hold that it is precisely the seriousness of present problems--an atmosphere of insecurity and instability created by the possibility that something may happen to the Chief Executive--that cries out for the creation of a single successor.

An executive committee that will exercise the powers of the presidency until a President shall have been elected and qualified in case of permanent disability, death, removal from office or resignation of the incumbent as provided for in Section 7, Article 7, of the Constitution, is a novel mode of succession that has never been tried in this country, and in other democratic countries. Furthermore, it is looked upon with skepticism, even with opposition, by the citizenry, especially the investors who look upon a ruling body as a junta even if it is composed entirely of civilians.

If, however, the position of vice president is created and a vice president is elected in the 1984 election for assemblymen, perhaps the ruling Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL) and the opposition can agree on a common candidate whose term could be co-terminus with that of the President. What appears to be of utmost importance at this time is the dissipation of the atmosphere of insecurity in the business community of this country.

CSO: 4200/137

TOLENTINO TO MAKE PUBLIC APPEAL ON VICE PRESIDENCY RESTORATION

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 30 Oct 83 p 36

[Article by E.T. Suarez]

[Text]

Assemblyman Arturo M. Tolentino has vowed to bring the issue of the restoration of the office of vice president direct to the people in case the KBL in which he belongs does not support the resolution he has filed in the Batasang Pambansa.

Tolentino, who spoke during the induction of officers of the News Correspondents Association of the Philippines at Holiday Inn Hotel, said the resolution of this issue is very urgent to restore the country's shattered posture of stability as a result of the assassination of the late Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr. last August 21.

"We have to do something quick to restore our stability," Tolentino said. "We do not have dollars and dollars are not coming in because foreign investors do not believe that the succession by the executive committee as

provided for in the Constitution promises stability."

He said in case the KBL does not support him on the issue during the party caucus, he will ask the Batasan to conduct a public hearing.

Claiming that before he filed the resolution seeking to restore the office of the vice president he had talked to a cross-section of society which supported the move, Tolentino said the Batasan should listen to the voice of the people that could be manifested during a public hearing.

Asked during the open forum whether he is willing to cross party lines in case the KBL leadership ignores his proposal, Tolentino said he will "cross the bridge when I reach it."

The Manila assemblyman appealed to the media to support him on this fight "though this could be a fight in the wilderness."

ROMULO AILING, MAY NEED 'MAJOR OPERATION'

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Oct 83 pp 1, 9

[Text]

NEW YORK — Foreign Minister Carlos P. Romulo, the only living signatory to the UN charter, may undergo a major operation to arrest the deterioration of his health, a spokesman said today.

The 84-year-old Romulo, who has the distinction of serving all postwar presidents of his country, went through an extensive medical checkup here last week.

The checkup was supervised by two American specialists, namely, Dr. Lester Gahrilova, professor of medicine of Mount Sinai School of Medicine, and Dr. Mervin Yahr, head of the school's neurology department.

Romulo's personal physician, Paulo Campos, said a major operation was being considered for Romulo, reported to be suffering from persistent pain over the nape and abnormal urinalysis. (PNA)

CSO: 4200/137

ZOBEL RETIREMENT PROMPTS LARGE AYALA STOCK TRANSFER

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 26 Oct 83 p 11

[Text]

A total of 44 million shares of Ayala Corporation valued at P88.89 million changed hands at the Makati stock exchange yesterday.

The transaction, according to Philsec Securities Corp. which handled the cross-sale, was an intra-corporate realignment connected with the retirement of Enrique Zobel as "taipan" of the Ayala Corporation by the end of this month.

The number of shares which changed hands consisted of 38,564,000 "A" shares and 5,686,000 "B" shares all sold at P2 apiece, which was twice its par value of P1.

The 5.6 million "B" shares were sold at the exchange trading floor, while the 38.56 million "A" shares worth P77.12 million were unloaded on a negotiated-sale basis.

In his letter to the members of the board of the MKSE, apparently before the transactions were made, Philsec president Eduardo Gueverra said:

"In view of the retirement of Enrique Zobel effective the end of this month, substantial number of shares of Ayala Corporation owned by the Ayala-Zobel family and

Ayala group of companies may change hands in line with the changes in corporate management responsibility within the family.

"Considering that the proposed transaction would involve no acquisition of additional shares (within the group) and will be intended only to implement an international reorganization within the Ayala group, the transaction would not violate trading rules."

The amount of P88 million represents merely 5.2 per cent of the outstanding capital of Ayala Corporation which is about P800 million.

Zobel surprised the business community last month when he announced that he would be retiring as chairman and president of Ayala Corporation by Oct. 31, three years before the mandatory retirement age of 60.

He cited his need for time to devote to Ayala International and Bank of the Philippine Islands as chairman as the reason for his early retirements.

Zobel will be succeeded by his younger brother, Jaime Zobel de Ayala, as president and chairman of the Ayala Corp., which is also the holding company of the group.

MARCOS SETS POLICY OF PUBLIC LANDS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 25 Oct 83 pp 1, 8

[Text]

President Marcos directed Minister of Justice Ricardo Puno yesterday to draft a proposal amending the Constitution which would allow farmers to own public lands.

This was one of the three proposed amendments to the Constitution taken up in last week's caucus of the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan (KBL), the others being to break up voting constituencies from regional to provincial, and to empower the President to extend the term of Supreme Court justices beyond the retirement age of 70.

The President pointed out that the Constitution allows lands of the public domain to be acquired only by lease by a private individual or corporation. It is silent regarding public lands distributed under the land reform program or in the establishment of socialized forestry.

The constitutional provision states that "no private corporation or association may hold alienable lands of the public domain except by lease,

not to exceed 1,000 hectares in area; nor may any citizen hold such lands in excess of 500 hectares, or acquire by purchase or homestead in excess of 24 hectares."

On forest lands, the Constitution provides that "no private corporation or association may hold by lease, concession, license, or permit, timber or forest lands or other timber or forest resources in excess of 100,000 hectares..."

The President said he would "like to see a Constitution that is really devoted to implementing the Land Reform Code and socialized forestry," adding that it "should be simple, clear, and direct to the point, and remember, our basic policy is land reform."

He noted that one phase of land reform involving distribution of public lands is the resettlement program.

The Ministry of Agrarian Reform said 1.5-million hectares of public land could be developed for the resettlement of over 500,000 farming families.

CSO: 4200/137

EDUCATION MINISTRY CONSIDERS MUSLIM SCHOOLS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 25 Oct 83 p 23

[Text]

DAVAO CITY — Director Pedro O. Sanvicente of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Sports in Region XI directed over the weekend the committee which he had formed to submit a report on the study of Muslim schools (madrasah) in the region as soon as possible.

Sanvicente said he needed the report before he could make any recommendation for the possible integration of the madrasah into the public schools system.

Madrasah uses the Arabic as the language of instruction and relies on the Koran for its social and religious teachings.

The committee members have just completed a tour of the Muslim schools in Davao city and the three Davao provinces.

Sanvicente said his

office is preparing a position paper which he will submit to the education ministry for its reference on the plan to integrate some Arabic subjects into the public school curricula.

The Davao Muslims, earlier, had sought the assistance of lawmakers and educators to endorse the move to incorporate the madrasah into the public schools system.

Among those who endorsed the idea was Davao Assemblyman Rodolfo del Rosario, who in a speech before the Davao Integrated Muslims association, pointed out that Filipino workers who have been oriented to the Muslim culture and religion can easily adjust themselves to the situation in any Muslim country where they land a job.—(RCC)

CSO: 4200/137

PHILIPPINES

DAILY VIEWS AQUINO PROBE DELAYS

Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 30 Oct 83 p 6

[Editorial: "Probe Delays"]

[Text] The government has yet to establish that it is proceeding with urgency in determining the facts about the murder of the late ex-Sen Benigno S. Aquino, Jr.

At the time of writing, the fact-finding board does not yet have an office of its own. The necessary funds have not yet been released and, therefore, personnel have not yet been hired. The question has been raised whether some members of the board can work full-time with the board, considering their business interests.

Delays do not help the purpose of the inquiry. The trail might get cold. Moreover, the public wants an early determination of the facts.

CSO: 4200/147

BRIEFS

MANILA COVERAGE OF GRENADA--The Cuban embassy in Manila is very unhappy about the local press' handling of the Grenada situation. The Cuban ambassador is keen about meeting the local press or even the Foreign Correspondents Club so that he can give the side of Cuba. So far, only the American side has been pictured in the local press, he says.
[Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 31 Oct 83 p 4]

AUSTRALIAN GRANT FOR COAL PROJECT--Australia had agreed to provide a technical assistance grant of about two million Australian dollars (about P25.6 million) for the further development of the National Coal Logistics Project. Acting Foreign Minister Manuel Collantes and Australian Ambassador Roy Fernandez recently signed a memorandum of understanding on the project. Australia has already contributed 3.3 Australian dollars (about P42 million) for the initial stages of the project designed to reduce Philippine reliance on imported energy.
[Text] [Manila PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 31 Oct 83 p 10]

AUSTRALIA STOPS ARMS AID--Melbourne, Australia (AP)--Several multi-million dollar arms deals with the Philippines have been blocked because of growing tension in that country, according to a newspaper report Monday. The "Age" newspaper said it had learned that Minister for Defense Support Brian Howe had ordered a hold on a plan to overhaul some 120 Swedish-made Navy guns for the Philippines to manufacture propellants for rockets and shells, the newspaper said. And the "Age" quoted Howe as saying he was withholding approval on several arms contracts while his ministry reviews guidelines on foreign military sales. He said guidelines discourage Australian involvement in any country where there's "civil insurrection or something of that nature." "Where it stands at the present time is that I've specifically raised the case of the Philippines," he was quoted as saying. Ministry officials said Monday that Howe and his aides would not be available for comment. The "Age" said it had learned from sources it did not identify that the deals--the first military sales by Australia to the Philippines--could be worth 15 million (Australian) dollars (13.6 million U.S. dollars). [Text] [Manila THE MANILA PAPER in English 17-22 Oct 83 p 8]

REBEL ATTACKS KILL TWENTY--Twenty persons, including four policemen, were killed and at least 25 others were wounded in rebel attacks in Pampanga and Mindanao during the last few days. A mountain village of some 200 families in Dumingag, Zamboanga del Sur, was also burned down by rebels. [Text] [Manila BULLETIN TODAY in English 27 Oct 83 pp 1, 9]

COLUMNISTS, EDITORIAL VIEW KAL INCIDENT

Columnist Chides U.S.

Bangkok MATUPHUM in Thai 16 Sep 83 p 4

["News Commentary" Column]

[Text] After the KAL 747 with 269 aboard was shot down by a Soviet warplane at dawn on 1 September, attacks on the Soviets were heard all over the world.

Only the next day the United States was the first on the stage talking about the case before anything had been heard, along with being the one to find measures to respond to the Soviet action.

However, over the past 10 days both the USSR and the United States have each revealed only half of the truth. The other half they have kept aside to fight each other in the international political arena and it must be the case that neither side can afford to lose.

Because of this incident the countries that call themselves small countries, including Thailand, should think carefully and look for a conclusion that can serve as a lesson.

However, in the first place the "cruel, savage and inhuman" banner that the world has made and hung around the necks of the Kremlin leaders is appropriate in all respects if judged on humane reasons because of the 269 innocent people they unilaterally murdered.

But on the other hand, if we look at the cause, this same banner should also be hung around the White House leaders because the United States also has an equal share in this tragedy.

Why do we dare to blame our great friend?

This is because our great friend disclosed only half of the truth, the loss of 269 lives, and then they raised the matter of the "shooting down without warning" to attack the opposite side without end.

Meanwhile, they pretended to forget to tell the cause or else stated it unclearly. At the same time, they used the sorrow of the tragedy to cover up [their role].

And Washington's greatest skill has always been to try to push off the acknowledgement and any responsibility for an incident. However, this is normal for the U.S. Government which has been evident all along, whether the result has been in Indochina or in many Latin American countries who are facing it now.

OK, when next we dare to believe that only half of the facts stated by the United States are true beyond question, we should also be fair and believe that what the Soviets stated again has some truth in it, even if a tiny bit.

How will Reagan deny the accusation that the United States purposely let the South Korean 747 carry out an espionage mission regarding the Soviet nuclear base by flying a route which took it over 500 km over [Soviet] airspace.

How will they explain, where will they find the evidence to clear up the doubt of the peoples of the world--that the United States had long conducted espionage in this area before the incident took place, and subsequently it led the Boeing along with 269 people to their tragedy! Or would Washington deny its interest in carrying out espionage in this important strategic area!

The different matter now, with airlines all over the world boycotting the Soviet airline, individually, for individual reasons, is an ordinary and just matter only to seek assurance for civil aviation safety.

Other than the demands for the Soviets to compensate for the loss of 269 lives and other property, which are most fair, and which have had the greatest response, the other demands by Washington turned out to be fruitless. Even the UN Security Council in which the great power United States has powerful influence responded to the demands very weakly.

As for other tough measures, the governments of different countries continue to ignore them and stop [operations] only to observe.

Regarding these events, in addition to each country being afraid jeopardize its interests in ties with the murderous Soviets, we would like to ask the most ordinary question--whether the world trusts the protectors of justice such as the United States? Is this true?

You who get excited over the great power in Thailand, do you see [my] point or not? And--all of you who are friends of Moscow, does not this Boeing tragedy tell us again that your great friend dared to exchange its own small gains for the lives of many people? It is no different from the tragedy that is now happening to the people in Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

Is the condemnation of cruelty, savagery, and inhumanity enough or not!

You who are honest friends of Washington, does the case of the Boeing tragedy give you any new ideas or not?

Are your great friends really gods of charity and justice?

Finally, to those who have a difficult time being neutral, [regarding] the great powers in the case of the Boeing tragedy, as equally evil do you agree that "if you hate a vampire, do not give your heart to Satan."

Editorial Raises Espionage Issue

Bangkok BAN MUANG in Thai 15 Sep 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Commerce-Espionage"]

[Text] The diplomatic machinations concerning the Korean Boeing 747 which was shot down by a Soviet rocket are being carried out in an interesting way. It starts with the South Korean Government's claims for damages from the USSR, Taiwan's announcement that it will make a claim for damages through the United States, and the Japanese Diet's resolution to press claims for damages in the loss of lives of Japanese citizens. Moreover, there is also a political reaction in which Japanese attitudes are starting to harden toward the USSR concerning this.

One Japanese aggressive act, according to the Japanese Defense Agency, was that Mr [Tochichiro Nakashima], the director general of the Defense Agency called the Soviet ambassador in Tokyo and challenged the Soviet Government to present reliable evidence to prove its accusation that the South Korean airliner shot down was carrying out an espionage mission.

We have not given our views on this issue before because we have been listening for definite reasons. However, we are well aware that the world has been in a state of war between the two great powers for some time now. For one thing it is a cold war between two countries, but, on the other hand, it is also a cold war between the developing countries which are foolish tools of the great powers. Thus, the downing of the Korean Boeing 747 in this cold war situation could happen easily.

Concerning the great powers' accusations that it was an espionage plane, or a commercial or ordinary passenger plane, we don't believe that either party presents evidence. But we see that what has happened is a danger to the people of all nationalities who have to travel. We believe that these people should have a right to know or to examine how it was possible. Does their government use commercial planes to carry out intelligence missions? This is to prevent the people of all nations from becoming victims of a war which has not yet been officially declared.

Implications Discussed

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 9 Sep 83 p 3

["Follow the World" Column by Trairat: "What Can We Do With The USSR?"]

[Text] I would like to add a further note concerning the shooting down of the Korean passenger airliner. Suppose it was Aeroflot that had wandered off-course over a U.S. nuclear ballistic missile base. Then U.S. warplanes would have had to intercept the unidentified plane which was also the same

type as a spy plane. It is certain that the U.S. pilot would fire a rocket to shoot it down. The next question is, would the news be this exhaustive if 269 Soviets had died? I think there would be loud talk about it for 2-3 days and then it would fade away.

What made it really big news was that it happened that many people of many nationalities died together; Koreans were the most numerous group, then U.S. citizens, and then Japanese. It happened that there were also eight Thais aboard. This means that all the news agencies together attacked the Soviets who deserved it because they had downed the plane, and they were neither quick to apologize nor to accept the fact that they were wrong. If they simply said they had mistaken the plane for a spy plane, and after trying to force it to land without response, then firing warning shots with still no response-- they had to fire because it had intruded 500 km into their airspace. And if they had been ready to compensate, along with KAL which had violated the airspace, for damages to the relatives of those who had lost their lives, this would have made the grieving world feel better. However, the Soviets thought militarily; to them defense is a priority; other considerations are secondary. Their diplomats and politicians solved this issue by saying that they were totally correct and they would not let anyone into their territory to find out about the plane crash. This caused further suspicion and made the Soviet definitely look like wrongdoers.

The news agencies around the world jumped on the news of the downing of the plane without leaving it to cover other stories. On some days 90 percent of the teletypes were covering the downing of the South Korean airliner. They really kept repeating and attacking. If it were the United States that had made the mistake, would they have piled on to this extent?

It really is not fair that we communicate as blocs and that the news media are nearly all from the West. Sometimes, we have to take the stories with a grain of salt and look at them carefully in every way. While the news of the Aquino murder was loud, as soon as there was news about the plane crash the news about Marcos disappeared immediately. Check it out for yourselves.

The United States played a game to push the whole world to condemn the USSR, but the United States itself could only think; it did not dare really to do anything to the USSR. It is just [self] interest!!

If they bar Soviet airlines from landing, the USSR will then bar them also. The big companies in the United States will be in trouble. The USSR, itself, would not have any problems because things belong to the state. If the United States cuts off the economic agreements then the American farmers and merchants will cry. We can see that Uncle Sam cannot do anything. They never dare to take real action. Talk is cheap.

We should not become a tool for anyone. We can condemn or protest, however, we certainly should not do anything to cause Thailand to lose other benefits. How about ring leader America? What did they do?

In fact, the one who benefits directly from the world condemnation is the United States, itself, because it is also a superpower. It is the usual thing that when one side is stomped on the United States will immediately rise up higher. This is how one nation takes advantage of and uses others as tools!

Cartoon Juxtaposes KAL, Marcos

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 7 Sep 83 p 5



Key:

1. Some people are happy [about it]
2. Marcos
3. Aquino
4. Aeo DAILY NEWS 8 September 1983

Propaganda Aspect of Incident

Bangkok DAILY NEWS in Thai 8 Sep 83 p 3

["Follow the World" Column by Trairat: "The Great Giants' Game"]

[Text] The world together has unequivocally attacked the USSR. If it had not been a White Bear it would have been torn to pieces. A characteristic of some Thai people is that sometimes they cannot help feeling sorry for those who are being attacked. In the case of this plane crash, it is not completely

right to blame only the USSR. South Korea also has a part in it because it navigated the plane without checking carefully, causing it to wander that much off course, in addition it wandered over a very important target by flying over an important strategic location: a Soviet nuclear base. If KAL did not intrude on purpose as the White Bear accused them of doing we would have to blame it on bad luck.

The bad luck came later, that is, in the brief period when the United States sent a spy plane, an intelligence plane, and it flew around close to that area. It was a RC 135 with the shape and other characteristics similar to the South Korean 747 jumbo jet. The RC 135 appeared on Soviet radar screens, and the White Bear's warplanes were alerted so that when the RC 135 intruded into Soviet territory they would immediately fly off to intercept it. Without any warning the 747 jumbo jet came from out of nowhere, flying in the opposite direction, and the Soviet warplane definitely had to believe 100 percent that it was a RC 135. If the Japanese-U.S. intelligence reports are correct, the warplane followed and immediately fired 3 rockets in a row....

What could be left?

It seems the case that the Soviet warplane followed the jumbo jet for as long as 2 ½ hours before it attacked; it is possible that the Soviet warplane tried to force it to land one last time to the point of firing a warning shot at the jet but the Korean pilots were stubborn and thought the Soviet plane would not dare to really fire at them. There was also follow-up news from the United States pointing out that the plane (the 747) immediately changed its course. It might have wanted to get away to save itself or to get on the right route... however, it was too late and the rockets went directly to the target.

There was a terrible explosion!

The Soviet side went on television and radio. On the U.S. side, the President himself appeared on the screen attacking the USSR. It turned out to be an amusing scene. Once in a great while the two giants will have a war like this, and this pleases the world very much. According to the scores they got, the United States got very high points in its favor: In any case, the only question is how well the White Bear's excuse will hold up. The White Bear did not give in; it argued that the United States had collaborated with South Korea in attempting to carry out intelligence missions using the passenger's lives as a cover. If the USSR fired, the world condemns it. The White Bear points a finger at Mr Reagan comparing him to Hitler, scornfully laughing at the dead and death. The only thing he wants is the secret of the nuclear base the United States aims to destroy in wartime. Mr Reagan argues that the Soviets are cold-blooded murderers who do not admit they are wrong. The data on the tape that recorded the Soviet pilot's report to his headquarters that their rockets had found the target and destroyed it; this caused the world to be unable to forget the disgraceful thing the Soviets had done this time.

When the time came, the United States was not seen to be brave at all. They were only good at talking and attacking. They did not even dare to ban the

Soviet airline Aeroflot from landing [as published]. They had to study other things in detail first. Canada was better, for it was the first country that did so. The United States used to cut off economic ties to the USSR, but the result was that the United States hurt itself, concerning wheat sales to the USSR. This time the United States dared not use this measure again.

When we look at it, this is like shadow boxing. The two giants taunt each other; propagandizing, condemning and destroying the image of the opposite side as much as they can. The White Bear can only gnash its teeth with anger and complain as if it were eating bees; "when it was your turn I did not complain, but it is my turn; don't you cry!"

The West attacked together the White Bear, as if they were afraid it might wake up. But the White Bear was very patient and stood up to the threats and condemnation and pointed out that if it were the other way around the United States would have shot the intruding plane down also.

We do not know how much we have become victims of the propaganda of the superpowers. All we know is that eight Thai people also lost their lives in the game of the giant nations. When serious incidents occur many times we should try to solve the problem. We should not let an airplane be shot down like this again. Anyone who boards a plane has the right to an unlucky ticket!

9884

CSO: 4207/2

MILITARY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC SECURITY

VILLAGE CADRES ASSASSINATED BY CHINESE AGENTS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 83 p 3

[Article by Thai Quang, HOANG LIEN SON Newspaper: "The Perpetrators Concealed Themselves"]

[Text] On the afternoon of Saturday, 22 January 1983, as they had on many previous occasions, two cadres from L. Village went to the house of Vang A Thao to pay him a visit. He served his guests wine and dried horsemeat. After drinking a few glasses of wine, one of the guests said in a high voice:

"Tonight, there is a meeting of core cadres of the village at the chairman's home. Have you forgotten?"

"The meeting to discuss what we should do about the several persons who have fled to China?"

Vang A Thao suddenly interrupted the conversation of the two village cadres:

"Hey, drink up. Let's not talk about work here."

On Sunday morning, before the dew had disappeared, many persons headed down the mountain on horseback toward the main street in Bac Ha District to attend the market held there. As they reached S. Hamlet, they suddenly saw a militiaman go speeding past them to report that someone had been killed in the middle of the road between C. Hamlet and S. Hamlet. The crowd converged on the spot and saw the two village cadres lying in a pool of blood surrounded by four holes made by grenades. One person had died and the other person, who was unconscious, occasionally stirred. He was taken to an emergency ward but, because his wounds were very serious, he died 8 hours later.

One night, as she sadly sat in the yard of her house beside the burning kitchen stove, the wife of the second person who was killed told the public security investigators that just before he died, her husband told her that he was attacked by a person from C. Hamlet. Beyond that, she knew nothing more. When they went to the area of C. Hamlet to search for suspects, the public security investigators learned that Vang A Senh, the son of Vang A Thao, a village militiaman who had not yet been issued a rifle, had fled to China on

20 January. On the night of Saturday, 22 January, the frequent barking of a dog was heard in the direction of Thao's house. The public security personnel expanded their investigation and found a footprint deserving of attention. At the stable at Thao's house, they found the imprint of a Chinese style tennis shoe, a style of shoe that Thao did not have and which few people in the locality wear. Two days later, the people informed the public security investigators that Thao seemed concerned and appeared to be preparing his family to leave the country. Thao was arrested. In the face of the clear evidence presented by the public security personnel, he bowed his head and confessed to his crime.

He stated that on that night, when everyone in the house had gone to sleep, he heard the barking of a dog followed by a very rapid knocking on his door. He quickly arose, opened the door and saw Vang A Senh, his younger son, who had fled to China 3 days earlier. Now, Senh, who was armed with a gun given to him by the enemy, had returned along with two other persons. Senh said:

"On orders from the upper echelon, we have come to eliminate the village cadres. You must help us."

Thao immediately told Senh and the persons who were with him the address of the place where the village cadre meeting was being held; after giving Thao a bundle of leaflets and forcing him to distribute them, the spies ambushed the two cadres as they were returning, intending to kidnap them. When the two cadres resisted them violently, they immediately began firing, threw grenades at the two cadres and then fled.

The above mentioned case was uncovered and publicly tried within the locality. The large number of people who attended the trial clearly saw the insidious scheme of the Chinese reactionaries to provoke and entice people within the locality to flee to China and then train them to be spies and commandoes and send them back to the locality to assassinate cadres and members of the ethnic minorities who refused to join them in betraying the Vietnamese fatherland.

7809

CSO: 4209/33

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

VIETNAMESE YOUTH DELEGATION ATTENDS MEETING IN SOFIA

Report on Meeting

BK030234 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] The 12th get-together of youths from the capitals of socialist countries was recently held in Sofia, Bulgaria, with the topics of peace, socialism, and communism.

Attending the meeting were youth delegations from the capitals of 12 countries, including a 15-member Hanoi youth delegation led by Luu Minh Tri, secretary of the Ho Chi Minh Youth Union Central Committee and secretary of the union's Hanoi committee.

The Vietnamese delegation participated in many activities. It delivered a speech on youth in socialist capitals and their role in taking the lead in fulfilling party duties. It joined in a discussion of subjects such as the world youths struggle for peace, security, and detente; experience in educating youths to understand communism; and youth and socialist progress.

The Vietnamese delegation visited (Dimitrov) districts, an intermediary technical and engineering school, a telephone equipment factory, the Academy of Sciences, and many other projects in Sofia.

Youths Meet With Officials

OW011357 Hanoi VNA in English 1130 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] Hanoi, 31 Oct (VNA)--A 15-member Hanoi youth delegation led by Luu Minh Tri, secretary of the Central Committee of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union and secretary of the Hanoi committee of the union, attended the 12th get-together of youth from the capitals of socialist countries held recently in Sofia, Bulgaria, with the topic for peace, socialism and communism.

The delegation was cordially received by A. Lilov, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee and first secretary of the Sofia Party Committee. Luu Minh Tri had bilateral contacts with other head delegates on youth work and discussed with them plans on cooperation and mutual assistance.

CSO: 4209/40

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

PHAM VAN DONG GREET'S UN'S WEEK FOR NAMIBIA

OW261815 Hanoi VNA in English 1558 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, 26 Oct (VNA)--Chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong today sent a message of greetings to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar and Paul Lusaka, president of the UN Council for Namibia (UNCN), on the occasion of a week of solidarity with the Namibian people held by the UNCN.

The message says:

"Over the past 16 years, the Namibian people, under the leadership of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO), have staunchly struggled against the brutal Pretoria racist regime to gain their independence, sovereignty and self-determination. That just cause has won strong sympathy and support from all progressive and peace- and justice-loving forces the world over".

"The international conference held in Paris in April in support of the Namibian people's struggle was an indication of the resolute and strong support of the international community for the brave and persistent, struggle of the Namibian people and the front-line countries against the South African apartheid regime".

The message continues:

"Heedless of world public opinion and the resolutions of the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations on Namibia, the South African authorities continue their illegal occupation of Namibian territory and carry out a cruel colonialist policy, murdering Namibian patriots, oppressing the Namibian people's struggle for independence and freedom, and grossly contravening human rights and the elementary principles, of morality and international law".

"The people and the government of the SRV strongly condemn those criminal actions of the South African authorities and demand that they withdraw their troops from Namibian territory in accordance with the United Nations' resolutions on this question.

"The people and the Government of the SRV fully support the just struggle of the Namibian people under the leadership of the SWAPO, their only legitimate representative, and firmly believe that the Namibian people's glorious cause will be crowned with complete success".

CSO: 4200/144

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE AND AID

BRIEFS

OUTGOING PDRY AMBASSADOR--Hanoi, 25 Oct (VNA)--Yasin Ahmad Salih, ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, today paid a farewell visit to chairman of the Council of Ministers Pham Van Dong before assuming a new assignment. Chairman Pham Van Dong had a cordial conversation with Ambassador Salih. [Text] [OW251844 Hanoi VNA in English 1523 GMT 25 Oct 83] --Hanoi, 26 Oct (VNA)--Yasin Ahmad Salih, ambassador of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, today paid a farewell visit to vice-president of the Council of State Nguyen Huu Tho before leaving for home. Vice-President Nguyen Huu Tho had a cordial talk with him. With the vice-president was Le Trang, vice director of the Office of the National Assembly and of the Council of State. [Text] [OW261808 Hanoi VNA in English 1605 GMT 26 Oct 83]

SOVIET ASSISTANCE TO AGRICULTURE--Under the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation, the Soviet Union has helped Vietnam build some 300 projects. In agriculture, the Soviet Union has helped Vietnam build more than 70 state farms specializing in growing rice, industrial plants, and fruit trees. One of the Vietnamese-Soviet cooperation projects is the Dau Tieng Rubber Company established in May 1981. Besides exploiting more than 4,000 hectares of rubber, the company is now striving to plant another 20,000 hectares. [Text] [BK270229 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 26 Oct 83]

SRV-CSSR AMITY GROUP ANNIVERSARY--Hanoi, 31 Oct (VNA)--A film show was held here this evening in honour of the first anniversary of the foundation of the Vietnam-Czechoslovakia Friendship Association. The film show was attended by Dang Huu, alternate member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee, chairman of the State Commission for Science and Technology and president of the association; Trinh Ngoc Thai, general secretary of the Committee for Solidarity and Friendship With Other Peoples; Czechoslovak Ambassador Bohuslav Handl; and other officials. [Text] [OW011347 Hanoi VNA in English 0915 GMT 1 Nov 83]

SOVIET EDUCATIONAL DELEGATION VISITS--Hanoi, 26 Oct (VNA)--A delegation of the Soviet Ministry of Education led by Kanafhin Auezkhan, vice-minister of education of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, paid a working visit to Vietnam from October 13-22. While here, the delegation was received by Vice-Minister of Education Luong Ngoc Toan. The Soviet guests toured some schools in Hanoi, Haiphong and Vinh Phu Province. They exchanged views with Vietnamese educational officials on the combination of study and practice at production bases and on vocational guidance to school students. [Text] [OW261423 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 26 Oct 83]

GIFTS FROM SOVIET TRADE UNIONS--Hanoi, 23 Oct, VNA--The Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions held a ceremony here yesterday to receive a gift from the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions (AUCCTU) of the Soviet Union on the occasion of the former's forthcoming 5th National Congress. The gift includes 25 tourist cars, a number of mini-buses, and a number of musical instruments and audio facilities. The reception was attended by Tran Anh Lien, member of the Secretariat of the VFTU [Vietnam Federation of Trade Unions], and representatives of the Hanoi Federation of Trade Unions and the Hanoi chapter of the Vietnam-USSR Friendship Association. On the Soviet side were the visiting delegation of AUCCTU led by M. V. Kuselov, member of the All-Union Central Council and president of the Forestry Workers' Union, and I. A. Osipenkov, representative of the Soviet Embassy in Hanoi. M. V. Kuselov said that the AUCCTU considered it its internationalist duty to continue giving the working people of Vietnam every necessary assistance. [Text] [OW232249 Hanoi VNA in English 0732 GMT 23 Oct 83]

USSR'S AUCCTU GROUP ATTENDS MEETING--Hanoi, 26 Oct, VNA--A meeting was organized at Danang port Tuesday marking the fifth anniversary of the signing of the Vietnam-USSR Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation and the 66th anniversary of the October Revolution. The meeting was held also to welcome the visiting delegation of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions of the USSR led by M. V. Kuselov, member of the All-Union Central Council and president of the Forestry Workers' Union. In the southern Province of Song Be, the cultural and information service has organized exhibitions, films, shows and art performances in honour of the two anniversaries. Get-togethers with Soviet experts were held at Dau Tieng and Phu Rieng rubber companies and emulation contracts were signed between the two sides. [Text] [OW261758 Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 26 Oct 83]

CSO: 4200/144

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

NGHE TINH PARTY CONFERENCE REVIEWS PROVINCE'S SITUATION

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 83 p 1

[Article: "Understanding the Resolution of the 4th Party Plenum: Nghe Tinh Achieves a Unity of Will and Action Within the Party and Launches a Revolutionary Movement of the Masses"]

[Text] The Nghe Tinh Provincial Party Committee has held a conference of key cadres to study and gain an understanding of the resolution of the 4th Party Plenum. The Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee reviewed the strengths and weaknesses in its guidance of the two strategic tasks in keeping with the spirit of the resolution of the 5th Party Congress. The party organization and people of the province have quickly stabilized their production and everyday lives and have not allowed the difficulties being faced to force them to reduce the socio-economic norms for 1983. In agricultural production, new changes have taken place in the intensive cultivation of rice. For the first time ever, four districts in Nghe Tinh have recorded average yields in excess of 3 tons per hectare per season, five cooperatives have recorded yields of 5 tons per hectare per season, 20 cooperatives have recorded yields of 4 tons per hectare per season and some families working under contracts have recorded yields of 10 tons per hectare per season. Subsidiary food crop output has declined but grain output has roughly equalled plan quotas. High results were achieved in the procurement of grain and agricultural products; during the past season, Nghe Tinh deposited more grain in granaries than ever before and did so more quickly than ever before. Marked progress has been made in the effort to control the sources of goods through purchases and in distribution and circulation. The organized market has gradually grown; the prices of primary goods have been stable. The Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee and the Standing Committee of the Provincial People's Committee have closely guided the implementation of the directives and resolutions of the party, especially the directive on product contracts within agriculture and the Council of Ministers' decision concerning the Political Bureau resolution on distribution and circulation.

The Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee thoroughly and seriously reviewed the shortcomings that exist. Within agriculture, there has been a failure to closely guide the effort to improve product contracts in

accordance with the directive of the Secretariat and the resolution of the Standing Committee of the Provincial Party Committee. Many cooperatives have used "non-specific" contracts for the preparation of fields, seed production and the prevention and control of pests. As a result, grain output has increased but appropriate attention has not been given to the interests of the collective, capital accumulation funds have eroded and labor is not being distributed well to the various trade sectors. Appropriate attention has not been given to guiding the coastal region, guiding state-operated enterprises and guiding distribution and circulation. In the struggle between ourselves and the enemy, complacency and a lack of revolutionary vigilance can still be seen; the economy is not being closely coordinated with the national defense system. In organizational and cadre work, there are still manifestations of rightism and some cadres and party members have failed to set good examples in the implementation of party policies.

The key cadres of the province criticized themselves and criticized each sector and level regarding the weaknesses and deficiencies in the guidance provided by them and expressed clear awareness of their responsibility to the mass movement.

The Provincial Party Committee adopted a program of action designed to implement the resolution of the 4th Party Plenum in order to accelerate the effort to achieve the three major norms of the province by 1985: producing 850,000 tons of grain or more and procuring from 180,000 to 200,000 tons; achieving a local industrial output value of 270 million dong; and exporting from 450 million to 500 million dong worth of products. This year, Nghe Tinh has produced 770,000 tons of grain (400,000 tons during the winter-spring season and 370,000 during the fall season). To insure victory in the struggle between the two ways of life, it is necessary to closely guide distribution and circulation. Attention must be given to the cultural and social fields and to correcting the rightist thinking, the conservatism, the stagnation and so forth that exist. As regards national defense and security, it is necessary to clearly show cadres, party members and the people the malicious schemes being carried out by the Beijing expansionists and hegemonists in collaboration with the U.S. imperialists and heighten their vigilance in the fight against the multifaceted war of sabotage of the enemy, the fight to firmly protect the achievements of socialism. It is also necessary to increase the fighting strength and the leadership ability of the various party organizations and improve the management effectiveness of the state while upholding the right of collective ownership of the masses.

The study of the resolution of the 4th Party Plenum has been closely linked to the emulation movement to meet and exceed the quotas of the 1983 state plan, beginning with successfully completing the fall and 10th month production seasons; intensifying the effort to control the sources of goods through procurements; bringing about a change for the better on the distribution-circulation front and in the management of the market; implementing production and product delivery plans well within the state-operated enterprises; maintaining political security and social order and so forth.

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CSO: 4209/33

AGRICULTURE

CUU LONG PROVINCE REPORTS INCREASES IN AGRICULTURE

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Trung Kien, Cuu Long Province: "Cuu Long Province Moves Steadily Forward"]

[Text] In 1983, Cuu Long Province harvested a rather large winter-spring rice crop, exceeding its plan quota on the amount of area under cultivation by 50.9 percent and its output quota by 21.1 percent, a 14,000 ton increase compared to last year. Determined to overcome the natural disasters that occurred (prolonged drought and widespread inundation by salt water), farmers have directly sown or transplanted 65,000 hectares of summer-fall rice. Production collectives and farmers have harvested more than 4,000 hectares of early summer-fall rice, recording an average yield of 4 tons per hectare. The fields transplanted with the KT 4 and KT 5 varieties in Cau Ke and Tam Binh Districts have yielded an average of 10 tons per hectare. In recent days, taking advantage of the availability of water, farmers throughout the province have focused their efforts on accelerating the planting of 10th month crops.

Cuu Long Province has established coconuts as its number one industrial crop. The province, which has decided to establish a corporation concerned solely with coconut production, has focused investments in the establishment of a 10,000 hectare coconut growing area in Duyen Hai while encouraging families to plant coconut trees. The dwarf and "mulberry" varieties of coconuts, which bear large fruit and yield from 100 to 120 coconuts per tree per year, are gradually replacing old varieties. By 1985, the province will have about 2.5 million new coconut trees and one-half million old trees. With each tree yielding an average of 50 coconuts per year, Cuu Long will annually produce 87.5 million coconuts.

Over the past several years, the mobilization of grain has always exceeded norms. Despite fluctuations in market prices at the end of the season, Cuu Long, by displaying high determination and relying upon the experience it has gained, mobilized 133,000 tons of paddy, thereby exceeding its plan quota for the 10th month and winter-spring season by 2.3 percent.

Many new and significant factors are also emerging in many other fields. Despite a shortage of feed and the underdeveloped veterinary network, the hog

herd numbers 224,221 hogs, a 10.3 percent increase; buffalo: 58,282, a 9.9 percent increase; and cattle: 55,852 head, a 10.4 percent increase. The raising of chickens, ducks and fish has grown rapidly among families.

The production of some annual industrial crops has also increased; for example, sugarcane production has increased by 177 hectares, peanut production by 300 hectares, soybean production by 424 hectares and rush production by 64 hectares. Cuu Long has reorganized its allocation of crops on the basis of economic returns and a strong emphasis on exports.

The output of subsidiary food crops has declined. To correct this situation and stabilize the production of these crops, the economic guidelines of the province point out that the subsidiary food crop question must be raised in a well coordinated manner, that production must be closely linked to the procurement and processing of these crops and that the production of each type subsidiary food crop be planned in detail, be planned in a manner that increases the amount of area under cultivation and promotes intensive cultivation.

Having overcome the initial hesitation, indecision and fear of difficulties, new advances have been made in agricultural transformation, advances that have generated confidence within the party organization and among farmers.

Cuu Long has successfully carried out the redistribution of cropland, establishing 1,080 new production collectives, thereby raising the total number of production collectives to 1,987. It has collectivized 27 percent of farmland and established 457 new production solidarity teams, thus raising the total number of teams to 2,412. More than 500 production collectives are operating under product contracts. The province has not overlooked any stage of transition and has skillfully built bridges to collective production for farmers.

Over the past several years, the province has recorded continuous bumper crops and the living conditions of the people, especially of farmers, have undergone encouraging changes in the areas of food, clothing and shelter.

Despite encountering numerous difficulties with fuel and spare parts, many industrial sectors have maintained their production and, in some areas, especially small industry and the handicraft trades, production has developed well.

Steady progress is also being made with regard to marine products, the second most important strength of the province. Improvements have been made in the harvesting, procurement, processing and exporting of marine products.

Exports have been playing an increasing role in developing production and stabilizing the living standard of the people. Through exports, the province has obtained more than 60,000 tons of nitrogen fertilizer and many other essential goods supporting both production and everyday life.

Cuu Long Province is on a momentum of change and moving steadily forward.

The targets of Cuu Long for 1983, namely, 700,000 tons of grain, 100 million dong in industrial output, 20,000 tons of marine products and so forth, are being met.

AGRICULTURE

HANOI RADIO REVIEWS AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES

20 October Report

OW270631 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 20 Oct 83

[Agricultural review for the past 10 days]

[Summary] Over the past 10 days, the continuous rain in Northern Vietnam has created favorable conditions for the 10th-month rice crop to blossom and form ears. However, it has caused some flooding of summer-autumn rice areas in the provinces of Zone 4 and the winter vegetables and subsidiary crops.

Owing to active control efforts, to date the flooded rice area in water-logging-stricken localities has been reduced to 27,000 hectares.

Over the past week, the northern provinces have harvested up to 35,000 hectares of early 10th-month rice or 2.9 percent of the area transplanted. Excessive rain has slowed harvesting and has also affected the planting of winter crop.

As reported by the Statistics General Department, by 15 October the various provinces had planted nearly 28,000 hectares of winter crops or 9.6 percent of the norm. Compared with the corresponding period of last year, the planting rate has been slower, leading to a drop of 8,000 hectares, 17 percent of which is corn, 11 percent sweet potatoes, and 12 percent vegetables. The season for planting winter crops, including corn, sweet potatoes, and soybeans is about to be over.

By 15 October the southern provinces had transplanted more than 1,839,000 hectares of 10th-month rice, 89 percent of the planned area or 96 percent as compared to the corresponding period last year. Quang Nam-Danang, Tien Giang, and Song Be Provinces have surpassed the transplanting target, while other provinces have been able to fulfill only 87-90 percent of the plan norms. To date, some 220,000 hectares of rice have yet to be transplanted.

Also, by 15 October the entire country had harvested more than 566,000 hectares of summer-autumn rice or 82.4 percent of the planned area, with the southern provinces having harvested more than 500,000 hectares or 83.4 percent of the planned target and Binh Tri Thien and Nghe Tinh Provinces 49,000 hectares or 72 percent of the planned area.

Over the past week, rainfall has caused more than 8,000 hectares of summer-autumn rice crop in Nghe Tinh and Binh Tri Thien Provinces to be flooded.

At present the localities must concentrate on combatting and eradicating harmful insects and diseases to protect the 10th-month rice crop. The pace of winter crop planting this year is much slower than in 1982. The southern provinces should strive to accelerate and complete the 10th-month rice transplanting in order to be able to shift to weeding and fertilization work and to prepare for planting the winter-spring crop.

31 October Report

BK021018 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Oct 83

[Review of agricultural activities over the past 10 days]

[Text] Thanks to the sunshine during recent days, many localities have been able to accelerate the harvest of early 10th-month rice. According to the General Statistics Department, as of 25 October, all localities in the north had harvested almost 110,000 hectares of rice, representing 8.2 percent of the cultivated area, with the provinces in the delta region accounting for nearly 40,000 hectares or 7 percent of their cultivated acreage.

With regard to the yield of early 10th-month rice, all localities--except those which were affected by recent rainfall and typhoons--have attained a yield equal to that in the previous 10th-month crop season.

As of 25 October, the south had planted 10th-month rice on almost 1.9 million hectares or 90.4 percent of the planned area, with the provinces in the Mekong River Delta accounting for 1.63 million hectares--89.6 percent of their planned acreage. Provinces which have taken the lead in planting this rice or have planted it in excess of the planned norm are Nghia Binh, Tien Giang, Song Be, and Quang Nam-Danang. Lam Dong and Dong Nai are the only two provinces which have planted this rice on only 75 percent of the planned area. Efforts are now being made by the southern provinces to complete the cultivation of the 10th-month rice on the remaining 196,000 hectares.

Along with caring for the 10th-month rice, the southern provinces have harvested almost 30,000 hectares of early 10th-month rice, with Quang Nam-Danang accounting for nearly 20,000 hectares, Nghia Binh 6,500 hectares, and Minh Hai 2,800 hectares.

With regard to the cultivation of winter crops, due to the late ripening of the 10th-month rice and, particularly, as a result of rainfall and typhoons, the cultivation of these crops has been slowed down. As of 25 October, all localities in the north had planted winter vegetables and subsidiary crops on more than 62,000 hectares of 21.6 percent of the planned area. This figure represents 99.5 percent of the area planted with these crops during the same period last year. Although the cultivation season for some winter crops that

need sunshine--such as corn, sweet potatoes, soybeans, and garlic--is now over, the areas planted with these crops remain too small.

As 10th-month rice has ripened and is ripening it is necessary for all localities to satisfactorily prepare to harvest this rice so that land can be cleared for the cultivation of winter crops. Because rainfall and typhoons have caused the yield of the 10th-month rice to decrease, it is necessary for all localities to satisfactorily guide the harvesting of this rice to avoid loss and waste.

To ensure that the winter crop cultivation plan is fulfilled, plans should be formulated by all localities to expand the areas of potatoes and vegetables so as to make up for the shortfalls in the output of certain crops for which the cultivation season is already over.

Along with harvesting the 10th-month rice and accelerating winter crop cultivation, it is necessary to step up work in preparation for the forthcoming winter-spring crop cultivation, such as plowing 5th-month ricefields and seedbeds and sowing 5th-month rice seedlings. It is also necessary to pay attention to caring for the numbers of domestic animals, especially cattle, during the winter.

When the typhoon season is over, the central provinces should quickly formulate plans for the restoration of production. Meanwhile, the southern provinces should quickly harvest early 10th-month rice, step up care for rice-plants, and pay special attention to the protection of the 10th-month rice against insects and blight. Apart from these tasks, it is necessary for all localities in the south to step up work in preparation for the forthcoming winter-spring crop season.

CSO: 4209/40

AGRICULTURE

DAC LAC PROVINCE PLANTS WINTER CROPS

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 83 p 1

[VNA News Release: "Dac Lac Province Plants More Than 9,000 Hectares of Winter Crops"]

[Text] To date, Dac Lac Province has planted more than 9,000 hectares of winter crops, which include sweet potatoes, corn, peanuts and beans of all types, thereby completing 60 percent of its plan quota for the entire season and increasing its winter crop production nearly 1.5 times compared to last year. Krong Ana and Krong Buc Districts and Ban Me Thuat City have completed from 66 to 71 percent of their plan quotas on the amount of area under the cultivation of peanuts and beans.

In the past, the ethnic minorities in Dac Lac only raised one crop per year, a 10th month rice crop. As a result of building water conservancy projects, expanding the amount of area under the cultivation of wet rice, making the winter-spring season the main season and gradually expanding the cultivation of fall-winter crops, Dac Lac has been raising three crops per year for the past several years.

The districts and the city have prepared the soil wherever 10th month crops have been harvested and planted fall-winter sweet potatoes, peanuts, soybeans and so forth. Installations have coordinated the preparation of fields by tractors, buffalo, cattle and hoes in order to plant fall-winter crops on schedule. On the basis of the experience gained in production, if corn, black beans and green beans are raised during the 10th month season, peanuts, soybeans and sweet potatoes are raised during the fall-winter season by applying the techniques used in the intensive cultivation of vegetables and subsidiary food crops and using chopped peanut plants mixed with livestock manure as side dressing for crops.

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CSO: 4209/33

AGRICULTURE

DIEN BAN--MODEL OF AGROINDUSTRIAL ECONOMY

OW271718 Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 27 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, 27 Oct (VNA)--Dien Ban District near the port city of Danang in central Vietnam has recorded notable achievements in building an economic structure at the district level combining agriculture and industry along the line of the resolution of the Communist Party's 5th Congress held last year.

Dien Ban was one of the localities which suffered the heaviest devastation during the U.S. war of aggression of South Vietnam. More than half of its 114 villages were almost razed. Nine thousand out of the district's 32,000 families lost their children or relatives. Following the liberation in 1975, of its 12,500 hectares of farm land, only 3,800 hectares were cultivable. Nearly all the buffaloes and oxen, the main draught force, were killed by bombs, and shells or enemy raiders.

There remained only 35 10-hp pumping machines in the whole district. Not a single weaving loom was left in this area formerly reputed for its silk and cotton fabrics.

After seven years (1975-82) of hard work Dien Ban has healed its wounds of war, strengthened its technical and material bases, and transformed its economy along the socialist line. Production has been on the increase year after year and life has also stabilized and improved.

These achievements were gained not only through the sweat of labour but also at the price of human lives; 120 people were killed and 270 others wounded by bombs and mines left behind by the U.S. and puppet armies while tilling their fields.

Agricultural Production

All fields left fallow during the war have so far been reclaimed and put under cultivation.

Thanks to an additional spring-summer rice crop planted in April and reaped in early July, Dien Ban has increased its paddy output by 17,000-18,000 tons a year. Eighty percent of its fields are now planted with three crops a year instead of two formerly.

With the population's contributions in manpower and materials, 14 electric pumping stations including 112 pumps each with a capacity of 1,000 cubic metres per hour have been built to water and drain all the rice fields.

To encourage family stock-breeding, the district has effected a system of trade-off at the rate of one ton of manure for 30-50 kilos of paddy. Consequently, the number of pigs increased from 7,500 in 1975 to 10,000 last year.

Besides, new short-term and high-yield rice strains have been introduced to replace the old degenerated ones. For three consecutive years, 1979-81, Dien Ban reaped an average of ten tons per hectares a year. In 1982, it chalked up 11.2 tons per hectare.

Some co-ops reached as many as 16-17 tons. Last year, the district's output of paddy and other food crops converted into paddy equivalent showed a five-fold increase compared with 1975 and food share per capita was 500 kilos compared with only 100 in 1975. The cultivated acreage of Dien Ban accounts for only 10 percent of the province's total but its paddy procurement to the state makes up 25 percent of the province's total. Most families have some food reserve.

Small Industries and Handicrafts

Thanks to the development of food production, Dien Ban has expanded its small industry and handicraft production, gradually forming a local industry which can meet the local people's demands in farm work and daily necessities such as farm tools, lime, bricks, tiles, household utensils and writing paper. The district has so far built 96 industrial and handicraft production establishment.

From 1975 to 1982, the total output value of small industries and handicrafts increased 30 times, or 62 percent annually.

The proportion of agriculture in the district's gross output value dropped from 96 in 1975 to 60 percent in 1982, while the value of small industries and handicrafts rose from 4 percent to 40 in the same period.

Likewise, the workforce involved in small industry and handicraft production rose to 18.2 percent of the total in the district from only 1.5 percent in 1975.

New Relations in Production

Those achievements are inseparable from the transformation of the relations in production in the rural areas. Starting with the solidarity production groups, the district has set up agricultural cooperatives and production collectives which are a lower form of collectivization in which the land and main production means are not yet collectivized.

Up to February, 1979, Dien Ban had completed agricultural collectivization with 35 cooperatives having been set up.

Socialist transformation has also been basically completed in industries, fisheries, and trade, involving 70 percent of handicraftmen, 80 percent of fishermen and 60 percent of small traders.

The cultural life in Dien Ban has also changed considerably. Sixty-four creches, 36 kindergatens, 15 houses of culture, 15 houses of culture, 15 infirmaries, 1 hospital, 4 mobile projection teams and 36 broadcasting posts are among the facilities unknown to the population in the former regime.

Dien Ban is putting its efforts in solving some existing problems, namely to better ensure food requirements in some coastal areas so that they can devote more manpower to growing vegetables and fruit for local consumption and for export, and extend the areas grown with industrial crops such as tobacco, cotton, castor-oil plant, cashew.... [VNA elipsis]

At the same time Dien Ban is striving to develop sericulture, reduce the population growth rate, and resettle part of the population in overpopulated areas in new economic zones inside and outside the province.

CSO: 4200/144

AGRICULTURE

HAI HUNG REPORTS DIFFICULTIES IN RELOCATING FISHERMEN

Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 19 Sep 83 p 2

[Article by Tran Vinh: "Hai Hung Province Relocates Fishermen from Rivers to the Sea"]

[Text] Hai Hung Province has nearly 650 families consisting of nearly 1,150 laborers who specialize in catching shrimp and fish on rivers. In the past, these fishermen usually worked the rivers in Hai Hung, Haiphong, Ha Bac, Thai Binh and Quang Ninh. Their trades consist primarily of fishing by means of bottom nets, seines, winnow nets, gill nets, overlay nets and so forth. A portion of their catch (shrimp and fish) was sold to the state so that they could buy grain and supplies. The living conditions of fishermen were unstable. At some places, the effort to have fishermen adopt settled lives or shift them to agriculture encountered many difficulties, such as shortage of cropland and the unfamiliarity of fishermen with farming; meanwhile, the shrimp and fish resources in rivers were declining.

The province has adopted a policy of gradually relocating fishermen from rivers to the sea. In 1979, the first group of 27 persons was relocated. To date, the province has relocated more than 340 persons.

The relocating of fishermen to the sea has achieved initial results. Fishermen have stable work and better living conditions.

As a result of having 10 fleets specializing in the harvesting of shrimp and fish at sea, Hai Hung has additional sources of raw materials for the production of fish sauce. In 1979, the province organized an installation producing fish sauce utilizing local raw materials. In 1982, this installation produced 200,000 liters; in 1983, its plan calls for the production of 250,000 liters and improved product quality. The province is making an effort to become self-sufficient in fish sauce.

The effort to relocate fishermen from rivers to the sea is still encountering difficulties. Their boats are primarily small, frail and simple and they must fish close to the shore. In order to organize large-scale, highly productive fishing operations, the assistance of the various sectors and investments of capital and technology are needed.

7809

CSO: 4209/33

AGRICULTURE

REPORTAGE ON IMPACT, DAMAGE OF TROPICAL STORMS

Feature Notes Impact

BK301410 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 30 Oct 83

[From feature "Answering Letters From Foreign Listeners"]

[Text] This year, 10 storms--3 of them very severe, with gales rising to force 10--have hit the northern and midland provinces of Vietnam. The three devastating storms were "Georgia," "Kim," and "Lex."

The storm "Georgia" struck Vietnam in early October and wrought heavy destruction to the rice-growing provinces of Thai Binh and Ha Nam Ninh. Tens of thousands of houses and hundreds of schools, hospitals, and warehouses were blown down or damaged. One of the most heavily stricken districts in Thai Binh was Tien Hai. Here, the sea dikes were overwhelmed by tidal waves and thousands of hectares of autumn rice which was growing fine were submerged by sea water. What is more complicated is that farming will continue to be difficult in several crops to come.

A week later, two other storms from the Eastern Sea, "Herbert" and "Joe," accompanied by heavy rain, caused widespread flooding in the central province of Nghe Tinh. Many portions of the highway were damaged and many passengers were stranded for days.

In mid-October, the storm "Kim," of no less severity than the storm "Georgia," threatened the southerncentral province of Thuan Hai. It caused death, property damage, and particularly havoc on cultivated fields. Tragically, about 10,000 houses were damaged, including 1,000 wrecked to the ground. About 500 classrooms, storehouses, and health stations were blown down. Hundreds of fishing boats were feared drowned. Over 60,000 hectares of autumn rice were damaged, 3,000 other hectares required resowing of shorter-term rice.

While efforts were being made to overcome the consequences of the storm "Kim," the storm "Lex," the tenth so far from the Eastern Sea, brought heavy rain to the central provinces of Binh Tri Thien and Nghia Binh.

According to Vietnamese meteorologists, the weather this year has been unusual. This adverse weather will surely affect the production of food in Vietnam.

The Vietnamese people are doing their best to rapidly overcome the consequences of the storms and in particular, to restore and normalize production in the storm-stricken areas.

Tropical Storms "Lex," "Kim"

BK011213 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 1 Nov 83

[Text] The tropical storm Lex hit Dong Hoi township and six northern districts of the central province of Binh Tri Thien on 26 October. This is the 10th storm formed in the Pacific and the 4th to hit Vietnam so far this year.

Strong winds and heavy rains lasted for 3 hours, destroyed or damaged many houses, warehouses, and other installations. Water level in the rivers in the region rose by 2 meters, causing widespread flood. According to initial reports, in Dong Hoi township and in the districts of Bo Trach, Le Ninh, and Quang Trach, 80-100 percent of the dwelling houses, warehouses, and schools were ruined. Many boats and ships were wrecked or swept away. North-south rail traffic was disrupted and 300 meters of railway at (Thach Ly) station were swept away by flood water. Two thousand hectares of rice in Ben Hai District, which was in the earing stage, were submerged. Substantial damage was also caused the subsidiary food crops and other plants and trees in the whole region.

Earlier, the storm Kim, which landed in the coastal province of Thuan Hai, further to the south on 17 October, had caused substantial losses, especially in human lives. According to incomplete statistics, more than 200 persons were reported dead or missing, most of them fishermen, nearly 300 boats and ships were wrecked, more than 3,000 dwelling houses blown down, and 8,000 hectares of rice submerged. Industrial crops such as tobacco, castor-oil trees, and sugarcane also suffered badly.

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AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

NGHE TINH AREA GRAIN INSPECTION--Nghe Tinh Province recently conducted an inspection on the use of state-supplied grain among various organs and units of the state-operated sector as well as among all cooperatives. The inspection showed that 2,317 persons had received state-supplied grain rations beyond the set criteria, with the difference for 1 month amounting to 32,554 kg and the difference for several months amounting to 156,688 kg. Along with the re-collecting of quantity of grain distributed beyond the criteria, the province has instructed all sectors, districts, and units to draw on experience so as to overcome loopholes in the management of grain, and to deal severely with those organs and cadres found to have deliberately acted against the principle and system, thus causing losses to the state. [Text]
[BK300420 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 29 Oct 83]

CSO: 4209/40

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

MINISTRY OFFICIALS INSPECT FLOOD-DAMAGED AREAS

BK250914 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 24 Oct 83

[Test] On 23 and 24 October a delegation of the Council of Ministers--including representatives from the Ministries of Water Conservancy, Marine Products, Home Trade, Supply, Agriculture, Public Health, and War Invalids and Social Welfare; and from the Office of the Council of Ministers, the federation of communication and transportation enterprises, and the Subcommittee for the Control of Floods and Typhoons--led by Comrade Nguyen Tien Trinh, minister of marine products and with Comrade Dinh Gia Khanh, deputy minister of water conservancy, as deputy head of the delegation, made an inspection tour of various storm- and flood-stricken areas in Thuan Hai Province.

On the afternoon of 23 October the delegation met with various branches and sectors in the province, and heard Comrade Tran Ngoc Trac, chairman of the Thuan Hai Provincial People's Committee report on the damage caused by Typhoon No 9, and on the province's plan to help the compatriots in the typhoon-stricken areas quickly stabilize their lives and resume production.

On 24 October the delegation went to various typhoon-stricken areas in Tuy Phong and Ninh Phuoc Districts and in Phan Rang and Thap Cham cities to inquire about the plight of the victimized compatriots.

CSO: 4209/40

HEALTH, EDUCATION AND WELFARE

BRIEFS

TYPHOON-STRICKEN THUAN HAI AIDED--Learning that typhoon No 9 recently inflicted heavy losses in human lives and property on Thuan Hai Province, Nghia Binh and Lam Dong Provinces have sent their delegations to visit, comfort, and provide assistance to the victims of the province. It is noted that while the rainstorm was striking, many high-powered motorboats of Nghia Binh Province braved the danger and difficulties to help Thuan Hai Province rescue more than 500 sea fishermen. The Lam Dong Provincial delegation donated 200,000 dong to the compatriots in various typhoon-stricken areas in the province in order to contribute to helping them quickly stabilize their lives and restore production. [Text] [BK280755 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 27 Oct 83]

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POPULATION, CUSTOMS AND CULTURE

LIFE IMPROVES IN MINORITY VILLAGE IN HIGHLANDS

OW261837 Hanoi VNA in English 1514 GMT 26 Oct 83

[Text] Hanoi, 26 Oct (VNA)--Couadang village, about 18 kilometres southwest of Buon Ma Thuot town in Darlac Province is the home of some 9,000 Ede ethnic minority.

Like other ethnic groups on the central highlands, before liberation, the population of Couadang village led a nomadic life burdened by harmful superstitious practices, almost all villagers were illiterates invocations to spirits were the only recourse when someone felt sick. [punctuation as received] Sanitation was very primitive and famine was frequent occurrences in the pre-harvest days. These were the main reasons for the widespread epidemic diseases which claimed a high toll of lives each year.

During the past eight years, with state assistance, all the former nomads have settled for sedentary farming. The tilled acreage has extended to more than 4,000 hectares. The Ede have abandoned the old habit of living in separate tribal settlements and given up backward cultivation methods and practised collective farming. The village now has three cooperatives and 36 agricultural production teams with more than 2,000 hectares planted with paddy, corn, coffee and other industrial crops. The fields are adequately supplied with water and new cultivation methods are applied. As a result, most of the fields are grown with two rice crops a year.

Since 1978, Couadang village has made steady steps in solving the food problem. In 1982 it sold to the state 63 tons of food grains, 24 tons of coffee and ten tons of beans. Animal husbandry has also been on the increase. Each family has from two to three cows or buffaloes.

The cultural life in Couadang has also improved markedly. Illiteracy has been eradicated. Each tribe in the village now has its own creches and infant classes. Basic general schools are accommodating 1,600 pupils. Of the 32 women teachers, 27 are of ethnic minority origin. Besides, the village is running evening classes attended by hundreds of adults. All former magicians and sorcerers have given up their practices and taken part in farming. The village has built a health station and a six-hectare garden of medicinal herbs. The village has built more than 200 public baths and wells.

Unlike in the past when the villagers lived in large community houses along tribal lines, today each family lives on a private residential plot. Each household has been allotted an average of 2,500 square metres of land around the house where they grow vegetables and also coffee and pepper. Besides the traditional bamboo basket, the villagers are using more and more bicycles and carts as transport means. In nearly one hundred homes sewing machines have replaced hand sewing.

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